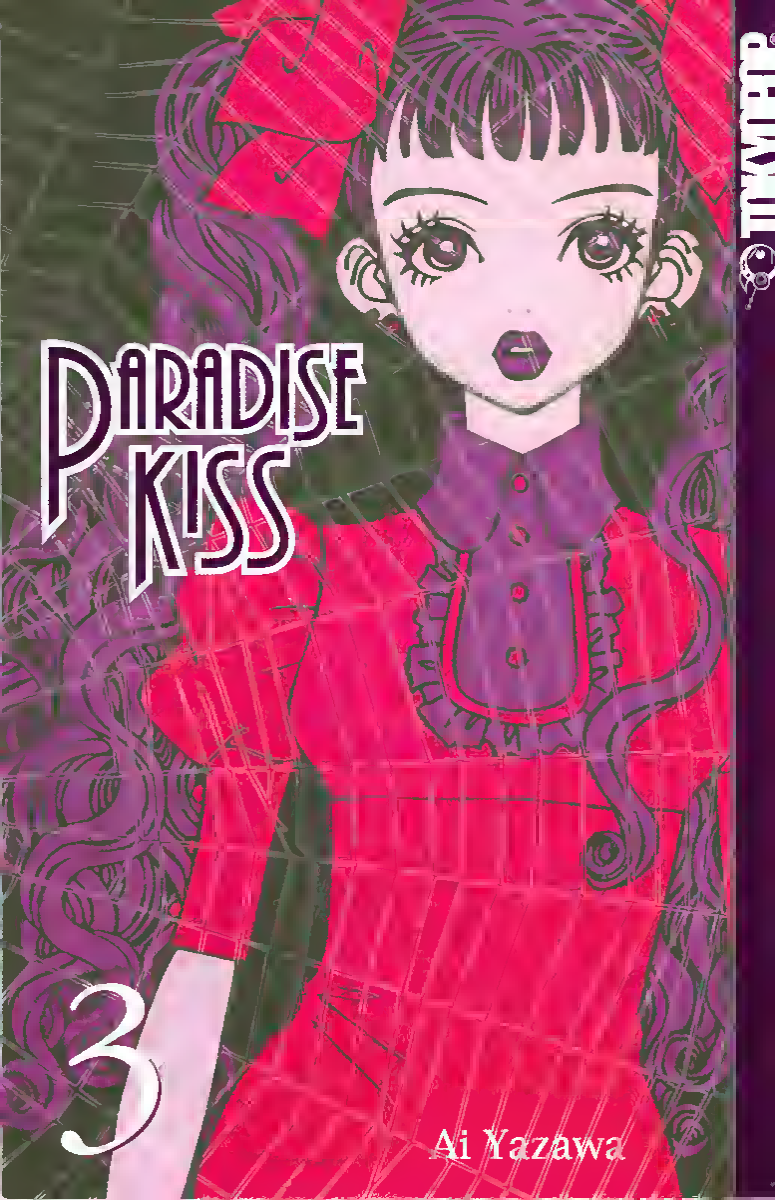
PARADISE KISS
3
Ai Yazawa
TOKYOPOP

Paradise Kiss

Ai Yazawa

PARADISE KISS

Volume 3

Ai Yazawa

TOKYOPOP®

LOS ANGELES • TOKYO

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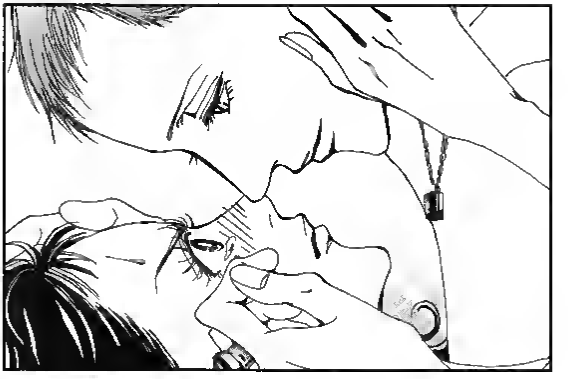


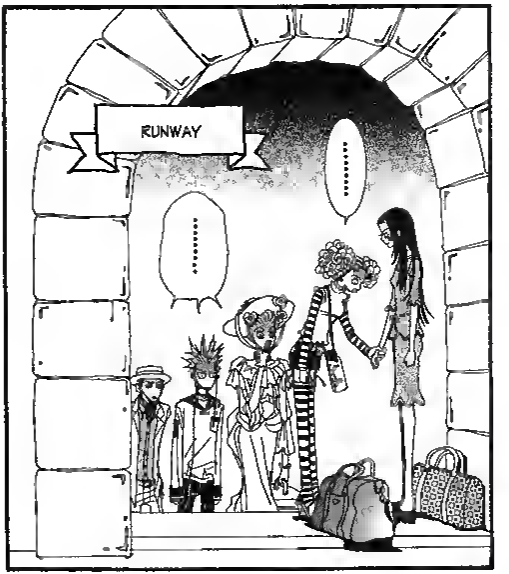
• Contents •

STAGE 21 9
STAGE 22 25
STAGE 23 41
STAGE 24 57
STAGE 25 73
STAGE 26 89
STAGE 27 105
STAGE 28 121
STAGE 29 132
STAGE 30 153
BONUS QUIZ 170

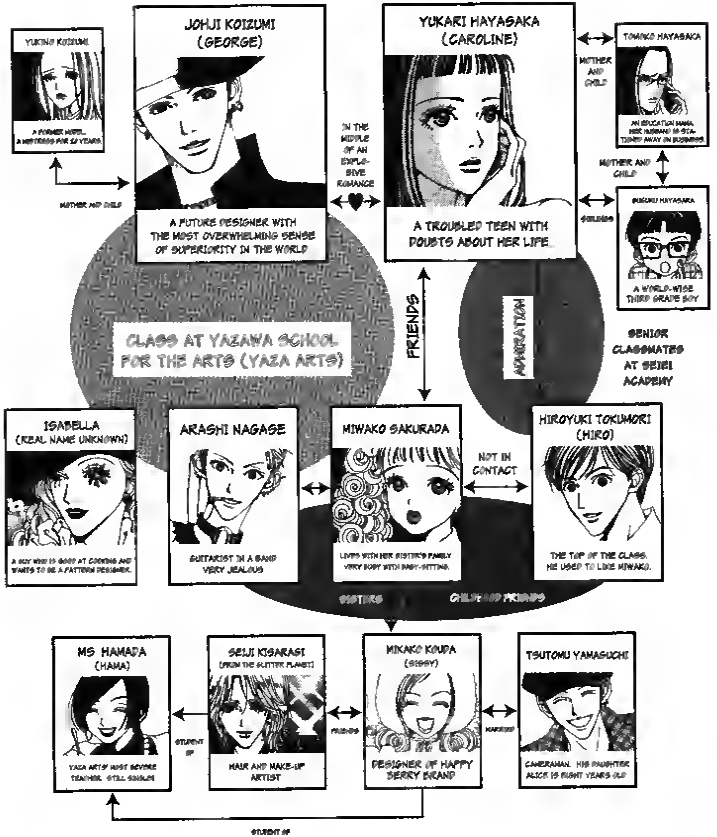
WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR

Yukari's got big problems. She used to be a normal school girl with classes and homework just like everyone else. But ever since she met the fashion-forward posse known as Paradise Kiss, her life has been turned upside down. She's fallen in love with fashion designer extraordinare George, a major player who calls himself an "equal opportunity lover." Her newfound love of modeling doesn't exactly thrill her parents—or fit in with her former long-term goals. And since she's started cutting class to hang with her new friends, she's soon kicked out of her casa. How's a fashion-obsessed supermodel-wannabe supposed to deal?

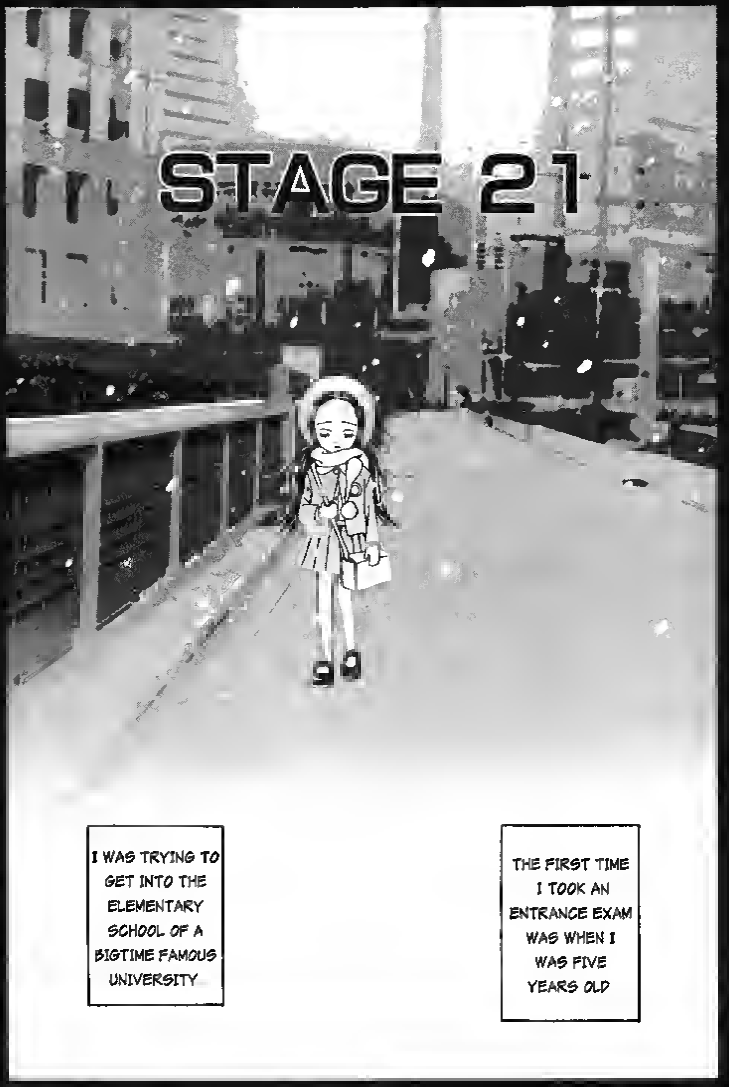
STAGE REVIEW



MAIN CHARACTERS


YUKINO KOIZUMI
A FORMER MODEL. A MISTRESS FOR 12 YEARS
JOHJI KOIZUMI (GEORGE)
A FUTURE DESIGNER WITH THE MOST OVERWHELMING SENSE OF SUPERIORITY IN THE WORLD
MOTHER AND CHILD
IN THE MIDDLE OF AN EXPLOSIVE ROMANCE
YUKARI HAYASAKA (CAROLINE)
A TROUBLED TEEN WITH DOUBTS ABOUT HER LIFE
MOTHER AND CHILD
TOMIKO HAYASAKA
AN EDUCATION MAMA. HER HUSBAND IS STILL TODAY AWAY ON BUSINESS
MOTHER AND CHILD
SIBLINGS
SUSUMU HAYASAKA
A WORLD-WISE THIRD GRADE BOY
CLASS AT YAZAWA SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS (YAZA ARTS)
FRIENDS
ADMIRATION
SENIOR CLASSMATES AT SEIJI ACADEMY
ISABELLA (REAL NAME UNKNOWN)
A BOY WHO IS GOOD AT COOKING AND WANTS TO BE A PATTERN DESIGNER.
ARASHI NAGASE
GUITARIST IN A BAND VERY JEALOUS
MIWAKO SAKURADA
LOVES WITH HER SISTER'S FAMILY VERY BUSY WITH BABY-SITTING.
NOT IN CONTACT
HIROYUKI TOKUMORI (HIRO)
THE TOP OF THE CLASS. HE USED TO LIKE MIWAKO.
SISTER
CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
MS HAMADA (HAMA)
YAZA ARTS' MOST DEVOTED TEACHER. STILL SINGLE
STUDENT OF
SEIJI KISARASI (FROM THE GLITTER PLANET)
HAIR AND MAKE-UP ARTIST
FRIENDS
MIKAKO KOUDA (GIGGLY)
DESIGNER OF HAPPY BERRY BRAND
MARRIED
TSUTOMU YAMAGUCHI
CAMERAMAN. HIS DAUGHTER ALICE IS EIGHT YEARS OLD
STUDENT OF

STAGE 21



I WAS TRYING TO GET INTO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF A BIGTIME FAMOUS UNIVERSITY

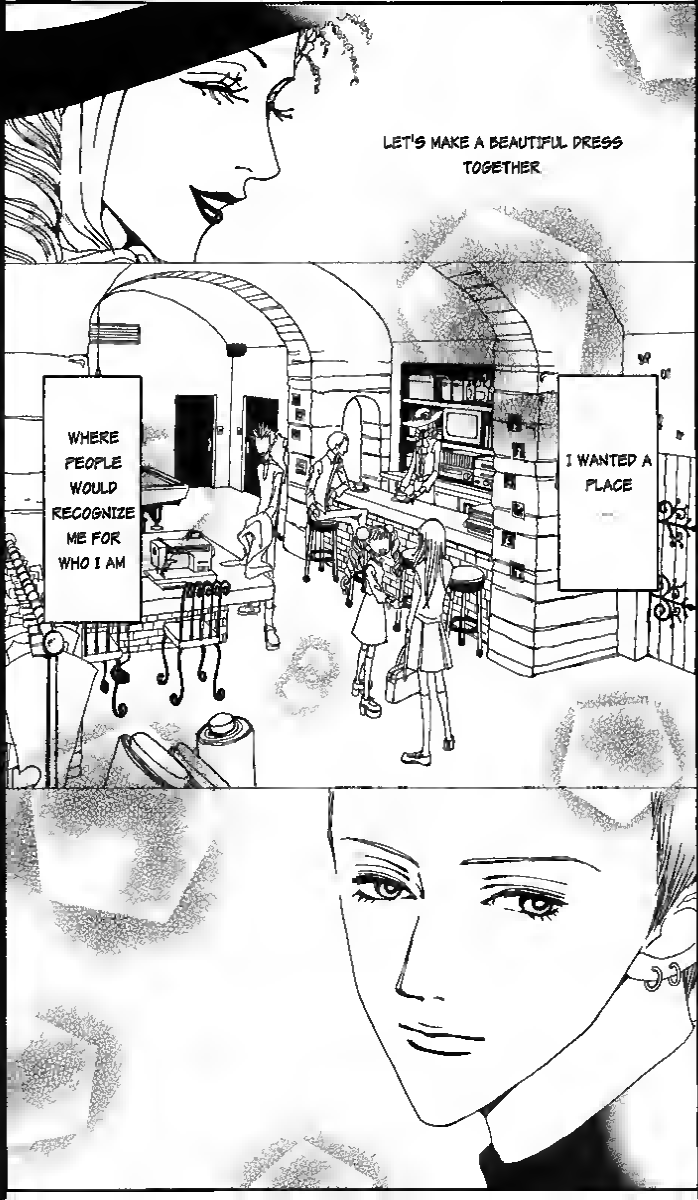
THE FIRST TIME I TOOK AN ENTRANCE EXAM WAS WHEN I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD

I REMEMBER I WAS MUCH SADDER ..
ABOUT MAKING MY MOM DEPRESSED
THAN I WAS ABOUT NOT PASSING THE TEST.

IT WAS A REALLY GOOD STUDENT ACT IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF
TO RECAPTURE MY HONOR I TRIED MY HARDEST AT EVERYTHING
WITH NO OTHER CHOICE, I ENTERED A PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
WHO CAN ANSWER THIS PROBLEM
YES!
CLASS REP
SUPER BRAIN
I'LL DO THE WARMING UP
WAH WAH
I'M BESTMOM
BIG SISTER IS BORING AGAIN
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I'VE BEEN TRANS-FERRED
THAT WAS JUST ABOUT THE TIME THAT DAD WAS TRANS-FERRED TO THE COUNTRY
MOTHER USED MY ADMISSION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL AS A REASON TO STUBBORNLY REFUSE TO GO WITH HIM.
WEAK-WILLED DAD HAD NO SAY IN IT
SULTRY TOWNSHIP
SIGH
CLICK
I SUCCEEDED AT GETTING INTO ONE OF THE FEW PRIVATE MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN THE CITY
WELL WELL...
THAT WAS THE START OF ALL MY TROUBLE
BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
AND DAD WASN'T THERE TO CALM HER DOWN.
MOM'S HYSTERICS GOT WORSE AND WORSE
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRIED MY SCORES WERE ALWAYS IN THE LOWER THIRD.
AS FOR ME, I HAD OVEREXTENDED MYSELF TO GET INTO A SCHOOL BEYOND MY ABILITIES
REPORT CARD
WHERE YOUR MIND YOUR
WHAT KIND OF A GOOD JOB YOU
ENGLISH HISTORY
THE MATHEMATICS IS TOTAL MESS!
WHO SOLVED THE MATHS PROBLEM

SIMPLY WEARING THE UNIFORM OF A FAMOUS PREP SCHOOL..
WAS THE ONLY THING I HAD TO FEEL PROUD OF
FINE BY ME, AS LONG AS HER HYSTERICS CALM DOWN AFTER THIS.
MY LITTLE BROTHER SUGURU EASILY MADE IT INTO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHERE I FAILED
YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY SUGURU YOU TRIED SO HARD!
EVEN STILL, IN THE SPRING I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO GET INTO HIGH SCHOOL.
MY STOCK WAS CONSTANTLY FALLING
I'M HOME. IF ANY ONE'S LISTENING
..ANSWERED MOM'S EVERY WISH FLAW-LESSLY
OF COURSE ♥
I GOT 98 POINTS AGAIN. BUY ME ANOTHER GAME
OK
MY SUPER SMART BROTHER.
HAYASAKA, WHAT IS IT WITH THESE SCORES? ARE YOU REALLY TRYING?
I AM TRY-ING
EVERYDAY I WAS REMINDED OF WHAT A BAD PERSON I WAS
YUKARI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING! YOU SHOULD BE STUDYING!
I AM
AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME...
YOU'RE LOUSY AT THIS. ARE YOU REALLY TRYING SIS?
BUT STILL, THE ONLY THING I HAD WAS MY STUDIES
I WAS LONELY AND MISERABLE AND COULDN'T DO WELL ENOUGH.

YOU THINK YOU'RE SO GREAT GOING TO COLLEGE?!
WHAT IN THE WORLD WERE THOSE DAYS FOR?
ONCE WE GET A LOT OF THEM MADE, WE'RE GOING TO TRY AND SELL THEM TO A BOUTIQUE!
WHO IN THE WORLD WAS THAT LIFE FOR?
IT'S YOUR LIFE?!
TELL ME ABOUT IT. I'LL LISTEN


LET'S MAKE A BEAUTIFUL DRESS TOGETHER
I WANTED A PLACE
WHERE PEOPLE WOULD RECOGNIZE ME FOR WHO I AM

YOU'RE THE ONE WE'VE CHOSEN
YOU'LL LOOK JUST AS GOOD
AS ANY OTHER MODEL

TURN A LITTLE MORE TO THE LEFT
THAT'S A GOOD EXPRESSION
AH
OKAY, THAT'S THE ANGLE
LOOK THIS WAY
I FELT IT WAS A MYSTERY, TOO
BUT EXPERIENCING IT MYSELF WAS EVEN MORE MYSTERIOUS
ARE YOU TOO HOT?
I'M OKAY
I CAN ASK THE SHOP PEOPLE TO TURN UP THE AIR CONDITIONING
IT'S SUCH A MYSTERY
WHY IS IT THAT MODELS AND ACTRESSES NEVER SEEM TO SWEAT?

JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO I WAS IN A COLD SWEAT
THAT'S TOTALLY GONE NOW
WE'RE READY, YAMAGUCHI.
SHOULD WE USE THIS HAT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, SEIJI?
EITHER ONE IS CUTE
GEEZ
TAKE A REAL LOOK AND SAY THAT
あはは
aha ha ha
甘えん坊！
baby
NO MATTER HOW OLD YOU GET
YOU'RE SUCH A BABY MIKAKO
I'M REHEARSING THE NEXT POSE ♥
HAPPING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, TSUTOMU?
HOW'S THIS?
WONDERFUL! ♥
LIKE THIS?
BUT WHAT'S WITH THE FIPPERENCES IN REACTIONS TAMAKECHI?
Y'THINK?
あはは
aha ha ha
I'M SERIOUS!
WHAT?!

IS THAT SO?
YUP. THAT'S RIGHT!
OKAY, THAT'S DECIDED ♥
I REALLY FEEL MOVED.
HEY, TANABEC-CHI SHOULD WE USE THIS HAT?
A WIDE BRIM WILL GET KNOCKED OFF IF SHE TURNS OVER
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SHE'S STILL WORRY-ING?
BUT THAT MISMATCH HAS A CUTE VIBE.
MIKAKO, WHO WORKS SO HARD TO SELECT A SINGLE HAT,
PICKED ME.
IN THE WHIRL-WIND WORLD THAT ALL THESE PEOPLE ARE BUILD-ING,
IT SUDDEN-LY HITS ME THAT I'M A PART OF THINGS.

MY CHEST GETS HOT
FEELING NERVOUS HAS NEVER FELT SO GOOD.
ISABELLA'S COOKING A VEGGIE STEW FOR DINNER.
GOOD WORK! I'LL BE WAITING AT THE STUDIO.
PLEASE HELP AGAIN.
GOOD WORK!
GOOD WORK EVERYONE!
Aru

THANK YOU
BUT I HAVE AN APPOINT-MENT...
A DATE WITH GEORGE?
YOU LOOK HAPPY
HEY! HEY, CAROLINE
I BET YOU'RE HUNGRY
EVERYONE IS GOING TO EAT DOWN-STAIRS WANNA COME ALONG?
THE FOOD AT THIS RESTAURANT IS DELICIOUS
HUH?
NO...
THAT'S NOT IT!
BUT, YOU'RE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY AREN'T YOU?
I BET YOU'RE A BEAUTIFUL COUPLE
MIWAKO TOLD ME. ♥
YOU'LL LOOK GOOD TOGETHER ♥
NO THAT'S...
IT'S OKAY,
GEORGE IS HANDSOME AND KIND AND SMART AND HE'S POLITE HE'S A PERFECT GENTLEMAN
YOU THINK SO?
I MEAN . I DIDN'T KNOW YOU KNEW GEORGE, MIKAKO...
ALTHOUGH YOU SEEM TO HAVE HIM ALL WRONG.
HUH?
BUT HE'S ALWAYS IN THE SHOW
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
THE HAPPY BERRY FASHION SHOW.
I STARTED A MEN'S LINE TWO YEARS AGO AND I'VE HAD HIM IN THE SHOW EACH SEASON
HUH?
SHOW?

THAT'S THE FIRST I'VE HEARD!
HE HE WORKS AS A HOTEL TOO!
THAT'S RIGHT!
I SHOULD HAVE YOU IN THE SHOW NEXT TIME, TOO, CAROLINE!
WOULD YOU BE IN THE FASHION SHOW?
YES! THAT'D BE SO GREAT!
AH
IT'S DECIDED THEN!
I'LL CALL YOU AGAIN LATER ♥
OKAY! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
TELL GEORGE I SAID HI!
.....
GOOD WORK
ARE YOU GOING ON A DATE NOW?
MR KOIZUMI WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
YOU SHOULD HURRY AND GO.
MR KOIZUMI

I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU THAT
AH, WELL
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME?
GEORGE?
AH
HE ASKED ME TO WATCH OVER YOU TO MAKE SURE YOU DIDN'T MESS UP.
BUT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR THAT.
SEE YOU LATER
THEN I'VE GOT ANOTHER JOB.
I'M SUSPICIOUS
AND WHEN DID THEY ARRANGE THIS?
SMILE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TODAY!
GOOD WORK!
AH RIGHT!
YUKARI,
LET'S WORK TOGETHER AGAIN SOMETIME

WOULD YOU BE IN THE FASHION SHOW?
LET'S WORK TOGETHER AGAIN SOMETIME
I DID IT ♥
CHECK
FIND THIS MEAN! PUNK!
UM! EXCUSE ME!
CAN I HAVE MY PICTURE TAKEN WITH YOU?
CLICK
WHAAT!
WHY?

AFTER ONLY ONE STROKE OF GOOD LUCK,
I WAS SO EXCITED I WAS ACTING LIKE A FOOL.
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW IT, I WAS HAPPY
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I'M BEHIND YOU ALL THE WAY!
WHEN THE MAGAZINE COMES OUT, I'LL DEFINITELY BUY IT
TEARY EYES
TO THE STUDIO ...
AND WHEN I RETURNED ...
A YUMMY STEW WAS WAITING FOR ME

STAGE 22

Mii
Mii
YOU DO LOOK DIFFERENT WHEN THE PROS WORK ON YOU.
WOW...
LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON
MY REALLY ♥
YOU LOOK SUPER PRETTY CAROLINE ♥
WOW!

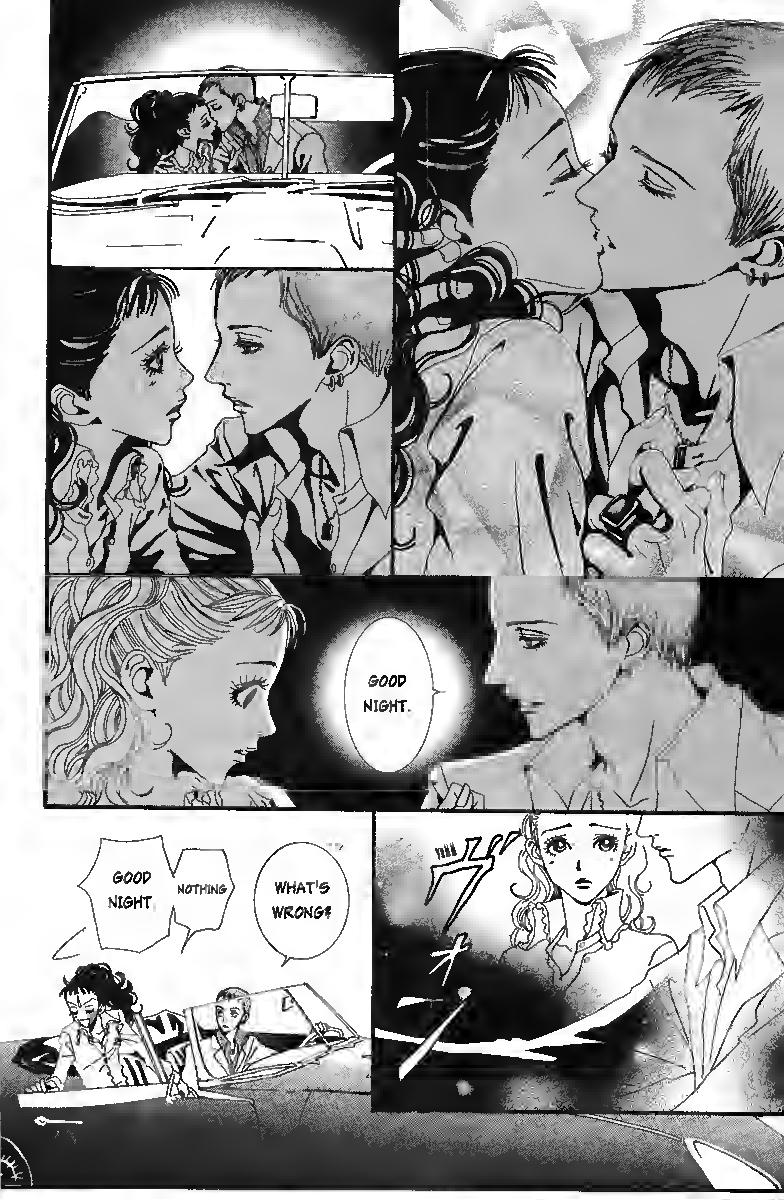
SURE, BUT WHAT FOR?
I CAN'T SAY THAT IN PUBLIC.
WHAT A BITCH
WOW,
OF COURSE.
SHE'S GOT GOOD MATERIAL
CAN I KEEP THIS ONE POLAROID?
I MEAN, YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
BITCH
I WAS KIDDING
CHANGING OUTFITS ALL THOSE TIMES
STILL, IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD WORK DOING A FULL SHOOT IN ONE DAY, CARRIE
grin
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
は？
hm?
ZIPPER'S ON SALE ON THE 25RD ISN'T IT?
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE MAGAZINE COMES OUT ♥
THAT'S GOOD
THIS STEW IS REALLY GOOD ♥
YUP
BUT IT WAS A LOT OF FUN!
I REALLY FEEL FULFILLED RIGHT NOW
DAY AFTER TOMORROW!!
HUH?

SILLY
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
AREN'T YOU SILLY, ARASHI
THEY COULDN'T PRODUCE A MAGAZINE THAT FAST.
NO, SHE'S IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE.
……
HUH?!
NIII
BUT TODAY IS THE 21ST ALREADY.
THERE ARE ONLY TWO WEEKS LEFT UNTIL THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.
WE'LL GET IT DONE SOMEHOW.
……
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN EATING STEW AND STUFF
WILL WE BE ABLE TO FINISH THE DRESS?
THIS IS BAD
THE THIRD YEAR SHOW IS NOVEMBER 2ND, RIGHT?
I SEE

REALLY?
YOU'RE TOO RECKLESS.
THERE RISES MY STRENGTH
YOU ARE REALLY CARE-FREE, AREN'T YOU?
HUH?
I DIDN'T SAY IT WAS BAD.
TOO BAD, THAT'S JUST MY PERSONALITY!
EXCUSE ME!
I ALWAYS THINK HOW CUTE IT IS
RECKLESS...
SEIJI DID IT AFTER THE SHOOT
NO, THIS
IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THE MAKEUP IN THE PICTURES
DID YOU DO YOUR MAKEUP?
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE TODAY, TOO
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVERSATION!
CAN I KISS YOU?

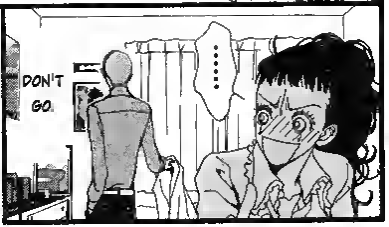
.....
.....
SEIJI REDID YOUR MAKEUP WITH REGULAR COSMETICS AFTER THE SHOOT, THEN?
THAT'S RIGHT
AFTER LOOKING SO GOOD, I SAID I WANTED TO GO HOME LIKE THAT
HE SAID THE STAGE MAKEUP WAS TOO FLASHY SO...
I SEE..
.....
CAN I KISS YOU NOW?
YOU DON'T NEED TO KEEP ASKING!
HUH?

THE LIGHTS ARE ON.
SISSY MUST BE BACK.
TCH.
THE BAD!
WE CAN'T HAVE SEX THEN.
I'LL GET GOING.
HUH?
IS THAT BECAUSE MIWAKO ALWAYS YELLS OUT IN THE MIDDLE?
MIWAKO DOESN'T MEAN TO.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SAID THAT.
MIWAKO'S SORRY, ARASHI.
YOU'LL HAVE TO SETTLE FOR A GOOD-NIGHT KISS TONIGHT ♥
GOOD NIGHT
DO IT
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR PIN IN.


GOOD NIGHT.
GOOD NIGHT.
NOTHING
WHAT'S WRONG?
THE END

DO YOU HONESTLY THINK THAT INDIRECT INVITATION WILL WORK WITH ME?
ACTING LIKE IT'S MY OWN HOUSE.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME IN FOR TEA?
AND COMPLETELY LAMENT
.....
I'M ONLY BORED
OHAK
I DON'T HAVE ANY TEA FOR YOU!
I SEE. LATER THEN
BUT IF YOU ABSO-LUTELY INSIST, I COULD DRINK SOME TEA
.....
ゲホー
INAT
MIYUKI

I'VE ONLY GOT INSTANT COFFEE.
SOUNDS GOOD.
OH NO!
HE'S GOT ME MOVING AT HIS PACE AGAIN.
I'M THE ONE WHO INVITED HIM
I CAN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT ANYTHING HE DOES
NOT THAT I'M PLANNING TO COMPLAIN
WHY AM I ALWAYS THE ONE GETTING THE RUN-AROUND?
.....
WHERE DID I PUT IT? THE KEY... HUH?
DON'T TEASE ME.
HERE IT IS.



IN OTHER WORDS, THIS WON'T GO ANYWHERE UNLESS I MAKE A MOVE

BUT IT'S NOT BECAUSE HE'S A GENTLEMAN, IT'S BECAUSE HE DOESN'T LIKE PASSIVE WOMEN

GEORGE WON'T TRY TO FORCE ANYTHING (EVEN THOUGH HE'S SELF-CENTERED).

I'LL MAKE YOU SO SATISFIED, YOU'LL WANT TO DIE.
I'M HOME.
THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD SAY. (THAT'S SEXY.)
ALRIGHT. I'LL SAY IT.
I'LL PRETEND I'M A LEADING ACTRESS AND SEDUCE HIM (THE MODELING JOB GAVE ME SOME CONFIDENCE)
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ACT SO COOL FOR MUCH LONGER
MOTHER
AH, WELCOME HOME, ARASHI
HIRO'S HERE.
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "PUMP"...
TOKU HIROYUKI.
HE ASKED IF HE COULD WAIT IN YOUR ROOM, SO I LET HIM IN.

YO.
BEEN A WHILE.
FATHER
KEISHI
.....
I HEARD YOU WERE LIVING HERE FOR A WHILE
SO I WONDERED WHAT WAS UP?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER
DON'T COME TO SOMEONE ELSE'S ROOM TO STUDY
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF EXAMS.
BUT, THERE WAS SOMETHING I JUST HAD TO ASK YOU
WHAT?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE HAYASAKA IS?
HUH?
WHY DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YUKARI?
.....
HUH?
YUKARI HAYASAKA
SHE'S GOING TO BE THE MODEL FOR YOUR SHOW.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "HIM"
カチャ clink
THANKS
DON'T GO

GEORGE!
LATER THEN
ACT A LITTLE RELUCTANT, WHY DON'T YOU?
SO DON'T GO SO QUICKLY
WHAT?
IT'S LIKE I'M ALWAYS THE ONLY ONE IN LOVE HERE.
TO ALWAYS BE SO RECKLESS
UM...
SO WHY SHOULD I BE THE ONE...
HMM?

DON'T CRY.
DON'T GO...
THIS IS A BIG FAILURE!
THIS IS NO GOOD.
TEARS WON'T WORK ON GEORGE.

AT LEAST THEY'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO.

STAGE 23

Nii!
I CAN HEAR HIS HEART BEAT.
GEORGE'S CHEST IS GOING BADUM BADUM.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
HE'S THE SAME AS ME.

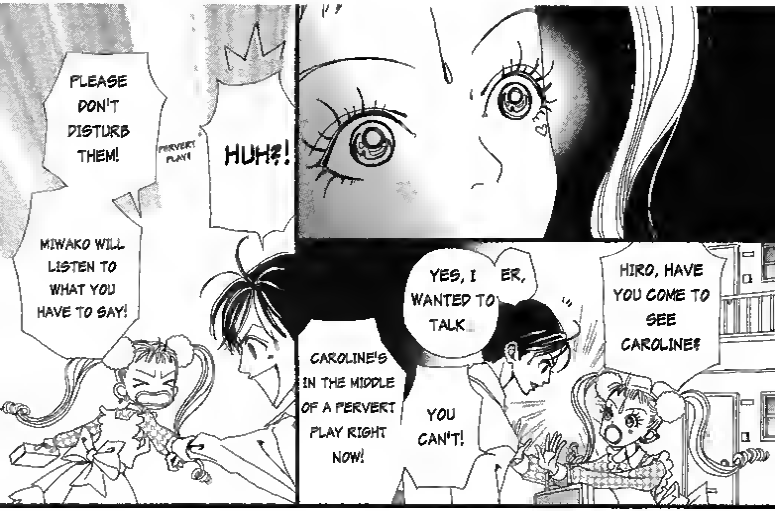
IS THERE REALLY SOMETHING IN HERE?
YOU'RE SO LIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW
WHY DON'T YOU INVESTIGATE FOR YOURSELF?
IS THAT OKAY? SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
YOU'LL TURN THIS MONTH'S "PARA-KISS" INTO A PORNO MANGA.
I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU.
YOUR CLASSMATE?!

I MET HER A WHILE AGO AND TALKED TO HER.
DIDN'T MIWAKO TELL YOU?
I SEE... DAIKI
YUKARI AND YOU?
YEAH
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
NOT AT ALL.
I NOTICED THAT YOU WENT TO THE SAME SCHOOL.
TAKESHI
WELL, SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN STRANGE.
SHE'S A STRANGE ONE.
I WONDER WHY SHE DIDN'T TELL YOU
WELL...
WHEN WAS THAT?
I HEARD NOTHING ABOUT IT
THEN I'LL ASK MIWAKO.
I DON'T KNOW!
ANYWAY, CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE HAYASAKA IS?

THOUGHT SO.
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE YOU CAME BACK HERE.
YUKARI IS AT MY APARTMENT.
GEORGE, THE BED GOES THAT WAY
OF ALL PEOPLE, WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO BORROW ARASHI'S BED?
I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER WAY
AHA HA HA!
IS THAT SO?
AHA HA HA
.....
PLEASE, QUIT TEASING ME
LIKE (S) A GRAVEYARD? ♥
THEN SHOULD WE GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?
BUT THAT'S FACING NORTH

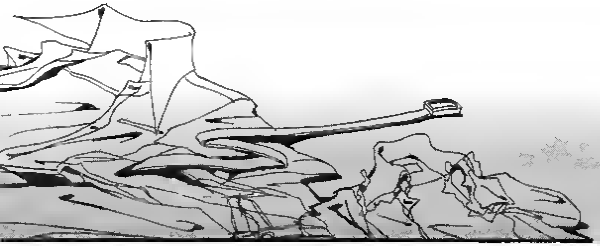
WHO'S DOING THE TEASING?
BUT THAT'S SERIOUS SKILL AT QUICK UNDRESSING
WHEN DID HE..
AH

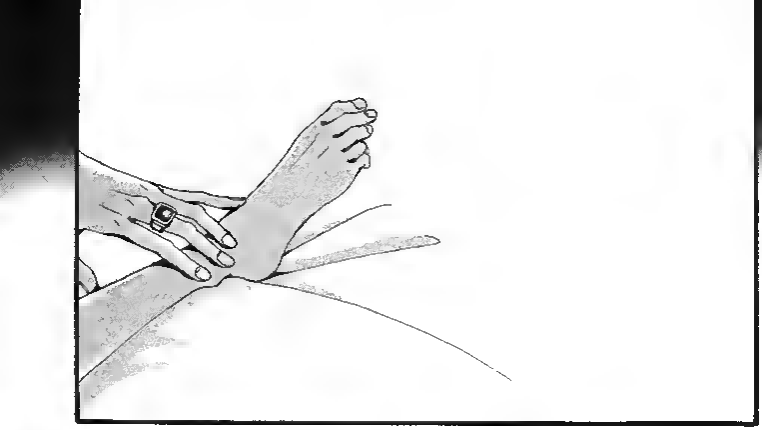
……
どん!!
MIWAKO.


PLEASE DON'T DISTURB THEM!
PERVERT PLAY!
HUH?!
MIWAKO WILL LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY!
YES, I ER, WANTED TO TALK
HIRO, HAVE YOU COME TO SEE CAROLINE?
CAROLINE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF A PERVERT PLAY RIGHT NOW!
YOU CAN'T!

IT WAS INEVITABLE
THAT I
WOULD GET INTO TROUBLE
WHEN THE TIME
FINALLY CAME.

I'M NOT PROUD OF IT,
BUT FOR THE 18 YEARS
BEFORE I MET GEORGE,
I WAS SUCH A NAIVE GIRL--
I HADN'T EVEN EXPERIENCED A KISS.
I ONLY HAD THE VAGUEST IDEA
OF WHAT HAPPENS BETWEEN
A MAN AND A WOMAN.
I EVEN WONDERED WHY
YOU HAVE TO DO IT.





BUT TO GEORGE'S FINGERS

AND LIPS,

MY BODY JUST REACTED NATURALLY

AND I REALIZED THAT HUMANS HAVE INSTINCTS, AS WELL

I WANT TO HEAR YOU SAY IT.

YOU KNOW IT DOES! DON'T ASK SUCH EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS!

DOES IT REALLY FEEL THAT GOOD?

BUT WITHOUT ANY TENSION AS WELL.

GEORGE'S LIPS WERE ALWAYS SO MEAN AND SARCASTIC, BUT NOW THEY TOUCHED ME SO UNBELIEVABLY HOT AND SOFT

I THINK MAYBE IT'S TOO LATE

IT WOULD BE BAD TO GET TOO EXCITED, WOULDN'T IT?

OR IS GEORGE SPECIAL? (I KIND OF GET THAT FEELING)

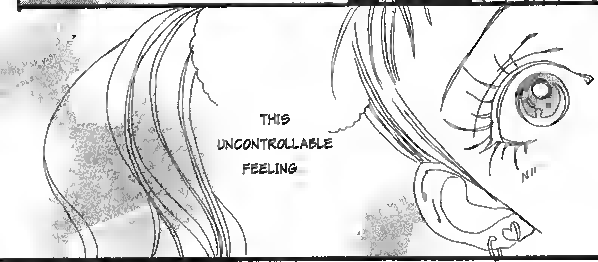
I WONDER IF ALL GUYS ARE THIS GOOD AT KISSING?

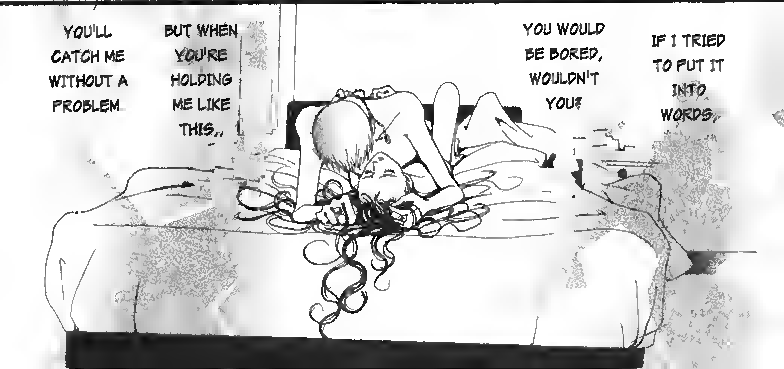
DOES IT HURT?
NOT AT ALL!
I CAN'T GET IN
...OW
ERK....
YOU'RE CRYING
DON'T WORRY!
THESE ARE HAPPY TEARS!
WANT TO STOP?
DON'T LOOK AT ME SO LOVINGLY

I'M IN
AH
BUT IT'LL GET BETTER SOON
IT JUST HURTS BECAUSE I'M SO BIG
NOTHING'S WRONG, SO DON'T WORRY
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? YOU MAKE ME LOSE POWER.
SO LOSE IT
WITHOUT A GAP.
COMPLETELY FILLS THE DISTANCE THAT HAS BEEN SO ANNOYING ...
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE LOVES ME OR NOT. THIS...

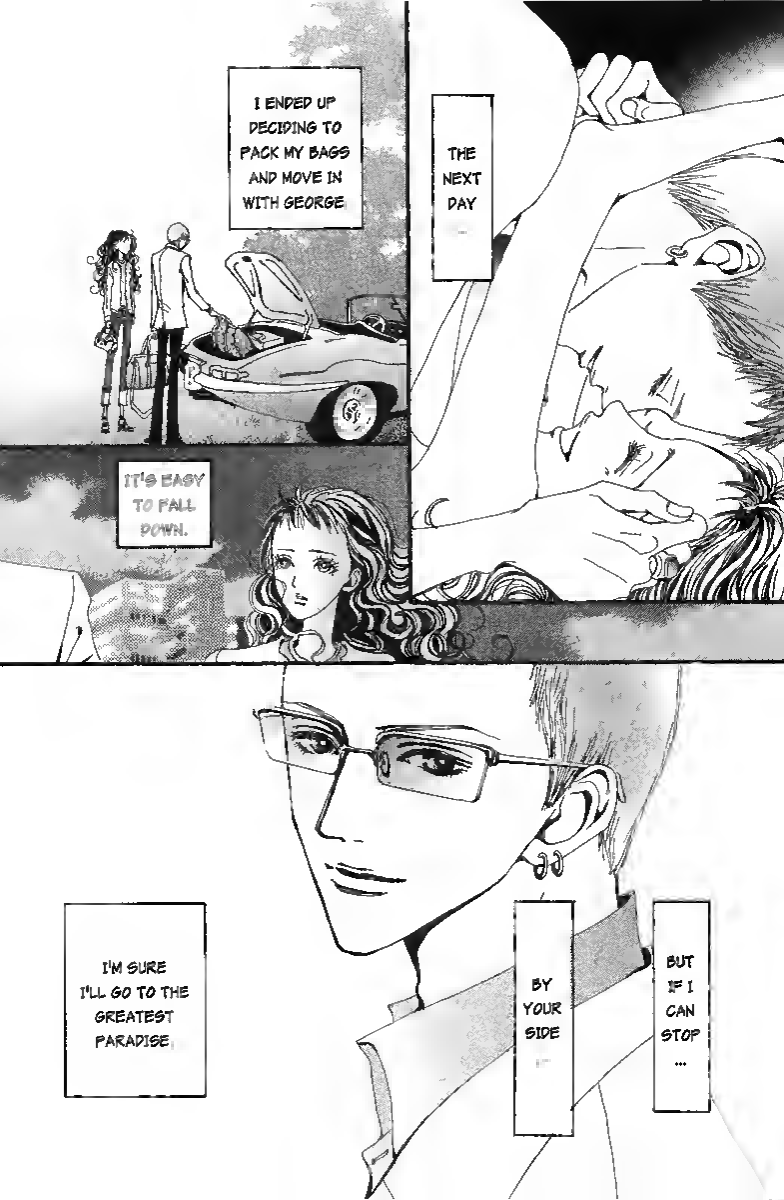
I SEE...
I UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKE HAYASAKA RUN AWAY
REALLY?
MIWAKO ISN'T GOOD AT EXPLANATIONS...
THAT'S GOOD.
I'M GOOD AT DECIPHERING YOUR SCATTER-BRAIN STORIES.
IT'S ALL RIGHT
.....
WHAT ARE YOU IMAGINING?!
ACTUALLY, MIWAKO THINKS GEORGE WOULD BE VERY GENTLE WITH HER.
HE'S SKILLED.
HE SEEMS THAT WAY.
MIWAKO CAN TELL BY HER FEMININE INTUITION.
SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING
BUT WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY PERVERT PLAY?
AH!
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HAYASAKA DATING?
THAT'S JUST MIWAKO'S IMAGINATION!

YOU'VE FINALLY REALLY SPOKEN TO ME.
A HEADACHE? ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
HUH?
MY HEAD HURTS..
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT..
STUMPING TOO MUCH!
.....


THIS UNCONTROLLABLE FEELING


YOU'LL CATCH ME WITHOUT A PROBLEM.
BUT WHEN YOU'RE HOLDING ME LIKE THIS,,
YOU WOULD BE BORED, WOULDN'T YOU?
IF I TRIED TO PUT IT INTO WORDS,

WILL THIS FEEL GOOD SOMEDAY?
BUT...
GEORGE
COULD YOU GO A LITTLE SLOWER.
AH SORRY
DOES IT HURT?
DOES IT FEEL THAT GOOD? INSIDE ME?
.....
YUP. HOW CUTE
I'LL BLAME IT ON THE PAGES, EITHER WAY
WE'RE OUT OF PAGES.
I KNOW IT'S A LITTLE EARLY, BUT ARE YOU ABOUT TO COME?
YUP.


I ENDED UP DECIDING TO PACK MY BAGS AND MOVE IN WITH GEORGE.
THE NEXT DAY...
IT'S EASY TO FALL DOWN.
I'M SURE I'LL GO TO THE GREATEST PARADISE.
BY YOUR SIDE...
BUT IF I CAN STOP...

STAGE 24

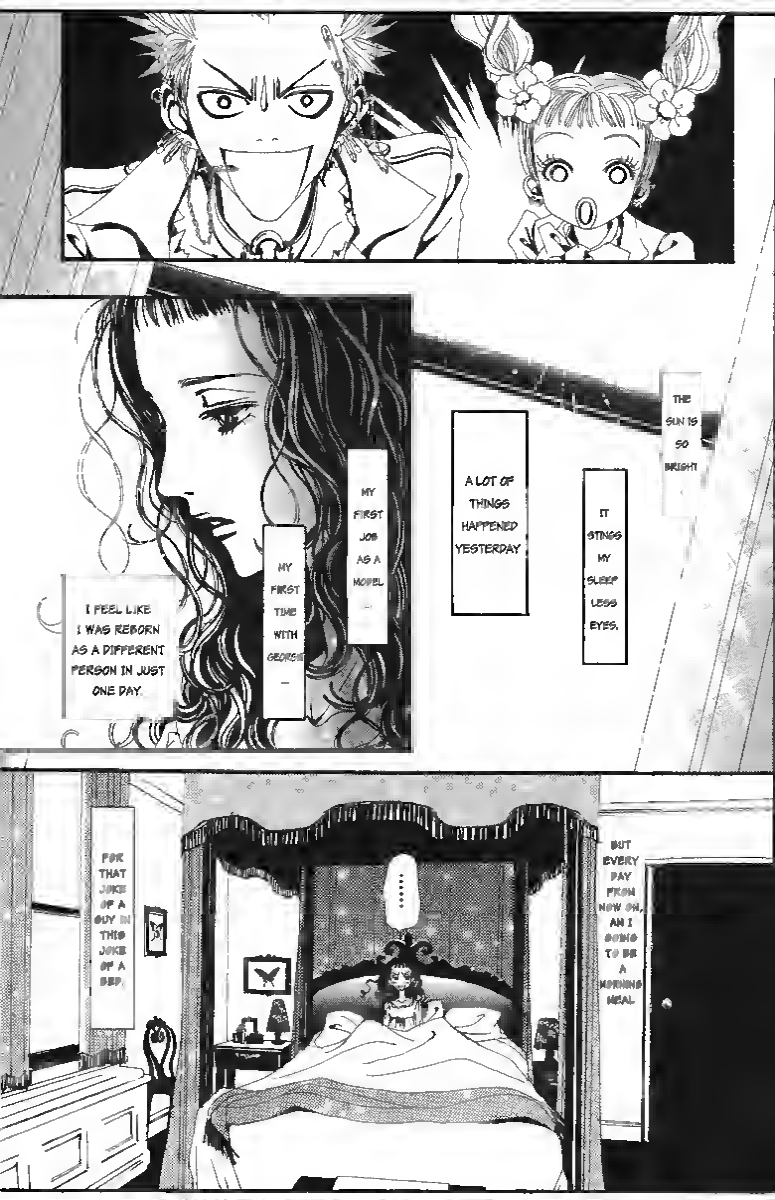
ギュオオオオン
VROOOM
110 PAPS
SHEEE
KOIZUMI!
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL AGAIN TODAY
AH, GOOD MORNING, MS. HAMADA
THIS PARKING LOT IS FOR TEACHERS!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
DON'T COME TO SCHOOL IN A CAR!
BUT THE SPACES ARE OPEN! JUST LEND ME ONE
IN THE FUTURE I'LL PAY YOU BACK BY BEING A POPULAR TEACHER LIKE MR. KISARAGI
WWW

.....
RATHER THAN THE FUTURE, WHAT ABOUT YOUR PREPARATIONS FOR THE SHOW IN THE PRESENT?
YOU WANT TO KNOW?
I'LL DO MY BEST TO MEET YOUR EXPECTATIONS
なめんなよ
DON'T UNDER ESTIMATE YOUR TEACHER!
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL! I'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SHOW!
GEORGE, I READ LAST MONTH'S ISSUE
YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL AGAIN TOWAY
AH, GOOD MORNING ISABELLA
AREN'T YOU FEELING EVEN A LITTLE GUILTY?
ざわ
ざわ
HE LOOKS HANDY AGAIN TODAY
AH, IT'S SUBLIME
GEORGE!

YOUR MANY ACTIONS AND VIOLENT LANGUAGE DEVIATE FROM THE STEREO-TYPICAL HERO.
BUT GEORGE
YOU ARE A BOY IN BODY AFTER ALL.
I'M GLAD YOU UNDER-STAND ME.
I'M TALKING ABOUT THE STEREO-TYPICAL GIRLS MANGA.
THAT'S JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG FOR ME
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING ABNORMAL
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THAT TOO MUCH
THAT I FINISHED SO QUICKLY?
YOU'RE YOUNG, AND THAT WILL HAPPEN SOMETIMES.
THIS ISN'T A LADIES COMIC
NO MATTER HOW COUNTER-INTUITIVE IT IS, YOU HAVE TO HOLD OUT UNTIL THE END, OR DO IT WHERE THE READERS CAN'T SEE YOU
GEORGE, ISABELLA, GOOD MORNING! ♥
BE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON
THAT'S HOW IT IS.
IS THAT SO?
THAT'S A TOUGH ORDER

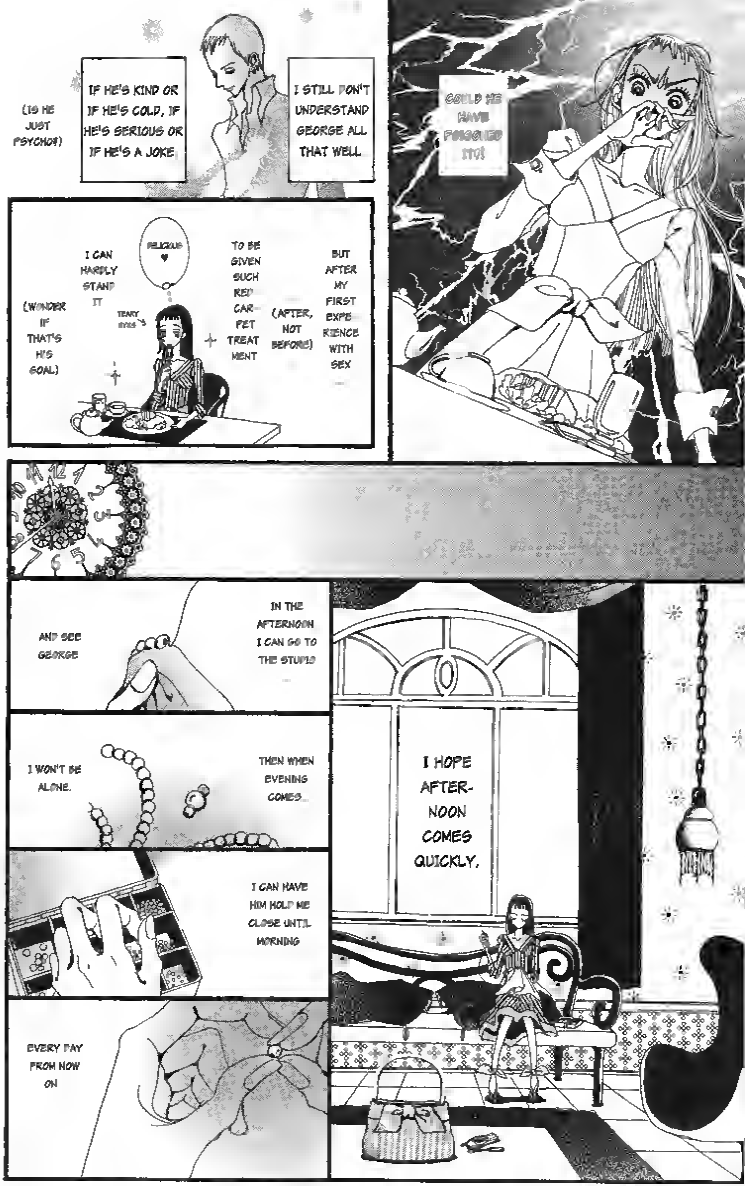
MY, HELLO MIWAKO
HOW ARE YOU?
VERY GOOD ♥
GLAD TO HEAR IT... YOU'RE CUTE AGAIN TODAY
OH, WHAT'S WRONG? YOUR CHEEKS ARE ALL RED
THAT'S GEORGE'S USUAL GREETING
OH, IT'S NOTHING
MY IMAGINATION JUST GOT AWAY FROM ME
……
ガバ!
IF YOU WANT TO BE TIED UP, COME OVER ANYTIME
GEORGE!
GOOD MORNING, ARASHI ♥
HOW ARE YOU?

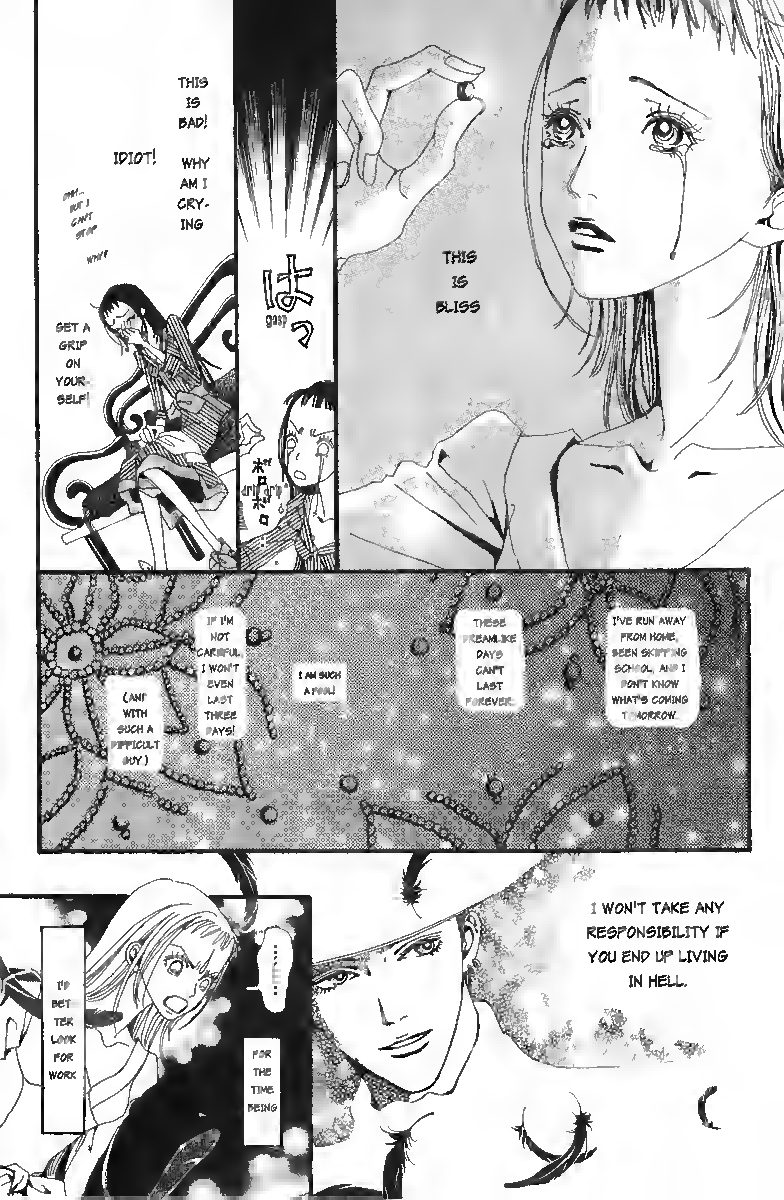
JUST DROP DEAD ALREADY!
RIGHT, ARASHI.
THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP
YOUR APARTMENT KEY
.....
CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE HAYASAKA IS?
YOU DIDN'T TAKE YUKARI BACK TO HER HOME, DID YOU?
HUH...
NO
YUKARI WILL BE LIVING WITH ME FROM NOW ON


THE SUN IS SO BRIGHT.
A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED YESTERDAY.
IT STINGS MY SLEEPLESS EYES.
MY FIRST JOB AS A MODEL...
MY FIRST TIME WITH GEORGE...
I FEEL LIKE I WAS REBORN AS A DIFFERENT PERSON IN JUST ONE DAY.
FOR THAT JOKE OF A GUY IN THIS JOKE OF A BED.
.....
BUT EVERY DAY FROM NOW ON, AM I GOING TO BE A MORNING MEAL

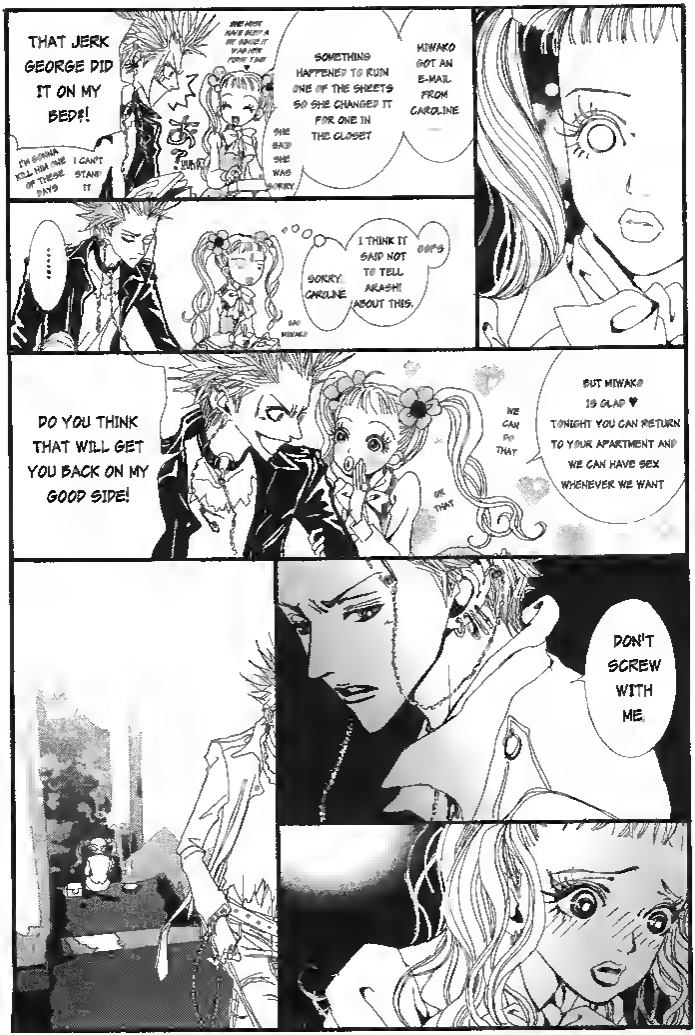
WHAT KIND OF COMPANY IS GEORGE'S FATHER THE PRESIDENT OF?
SPENDING THIS MUCH ON HIS LOVER'S CHILD'S APARTMENT
HE MAKES TOO MUCH
EVEN HAS A SEPARATE SHOWER BOOTH.
THE BATHROOM IS IMPRESSIVE TOO.
BATH ROOM!
I'LL FEEL REFRESHED AFTER I TAKE A SHOWER.
ANYONE ELSE WOULD LOOK AT THIS AND SAY THAT I WAS JUST A CHEAP SLUT
I'D FEEL LIKE I WAS WORKING HARDER IF I WERE IN A TINY STUDIO WITH A FLAT FUTON
I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT WOULD EMBARRASS ME ANYMORE
AND I EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO HAVE SEX WITHOUT SHOWERING
SHHHH
HOW SHALL I SPEND THE DAY TODAY?
IN ANY CASE,
WEAR THIS
← SHOES
THERE'S ONLY A LITTLE BIT MORE EMBROIDERING TO DO ON THE DRESS MAYBE I CAN WORK HARD AND FINISH IT
.....
AN ORDER?

FIT ME PERFECTLY, LIKE THEY WERE MADE JUST FOR ME?
IT'S CUTE ♥
WHY DO ALL THE CLOTHES HE MAKES
I LOOK LIKE A WOMAN!
GEORGE MUST HAVE MADE IT
THERE'S NO TAG
YOU CAN HAVE SHOES!
THE SHOES MATCH TOO
THIS IS JUST LIKE AT THE WELCOME PARTY
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY TO FIND SOMETHING TO MUNCH ON
EAT

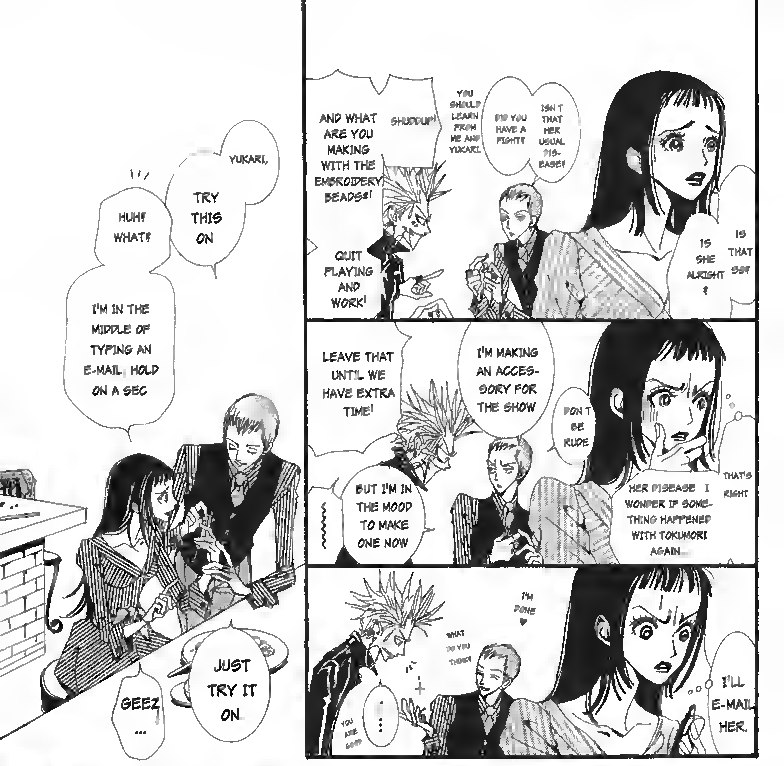

(IS HE JUST PSYCHO?)
IF HE'S KIND OR IF HE'S COLD, IF HE'S SERIOUS OR IF HE'S A JOKE.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND GEORGE ALL THAT WELL.
COULD HE HAVE FORGOTTEN IT?!
(WONDER IF THAT'S HIS GOAL.)
I CAN HARDLY STAND IT
TEARY EYES
RELIEVE
TO BE GIVEN SUCH RED CARPET TREATMENT
(AFTER, NOT BEFORE)
BUT AFTER MY FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH SEX
AND SEE GEORGE
IN THE AFTERNOON I CAN GO TO THE STUPID
I WON'T BE ALONE.
THEN WHEN EVENING COMES...
I CAN HAVE HIM HOLD ME CLOSE UNTIL MORNING
EVERY DAY FROM NOW ON
I HOPE AFTERNOON COMES QUICKLY.


THIS IS BLISS
はっ
gasp
WHY AM I CRYING
THIS IS BAD!
IDIOT!
UHH... BUT I CAN'T STOP
WHY
SET A GRIP ON YOURSELF!
I'VE RUN AWAY FROM HOME, BEEN SKIPPING SCHOOL, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S COMING TOMORROW.
THESE DREAM-LIKE DAYS CAN'T LAST FOREVER.
I AM SUCH A FOOL!
IF I'M NOT CAREFUL I WON'T EVEN LAST THREE DAYS!
CAN'T WITH SUCH A DIFFICULT BOY)
I WON'T TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY IF YOU END UP LIVING IN HELL.
FOR THE TIME BEING
I'D BETTER LOOK FOR WORK

ARASHI
I CAN'T RELY ON THIS DANGEROUS LIFE OF LUXURY!
I HAVE TO EARN ENOUGH TO FEED MYSELF, AT LEAST
YOU SEEM OUT OF SORTS TODAY. WHAT'S UP?
IT'S NOTHING
SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME.
BUT YOU HAVE SOMETHING, DON'T YOU?
WHEN YOU'VE BEEN TOGETHER EVERY DAY FOR 10 YEARS,
BUT YOU'RE NOT TALKING MUCH
YOU RUN OUT OF THINGS TO SAY


THAT JERK GEORGE DID IT ON MY BED!!
I'M GONNA KILL HIM ONE OF THESE DAYS
I CAN'T STAND IT
SHE MUST HAVE SPILT A BIT SINCE IT WAS HER TIME TOO
HUH?
SHE SAID SHE WAS SORRY
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO RUIN ONE OF THE SHEETS SO SHE CHANGED IT FOR ONE IN THE CLOSET
MIWAKO GOT AN E-MAIL FROM CAROLINE
.....
SAY MIWAKO
SORRY, CAROLINE
I THINK IT SAID NOT TO TELL AKASHI ABOUT THIS.
OOPS
DO YOU THINK THAT WILL GET YOU BACK ON MY GOOD SIDE!
OH, THAT
WE CAN DO THAT
BUT MIWAKO IS GLAD ♥ TONIGHT YOU CAN RETURN TO YOUR APARTMENT AND WE CAN HAVE SEX WHENEVER WE WANT
DON'T SCREW WITH ME.

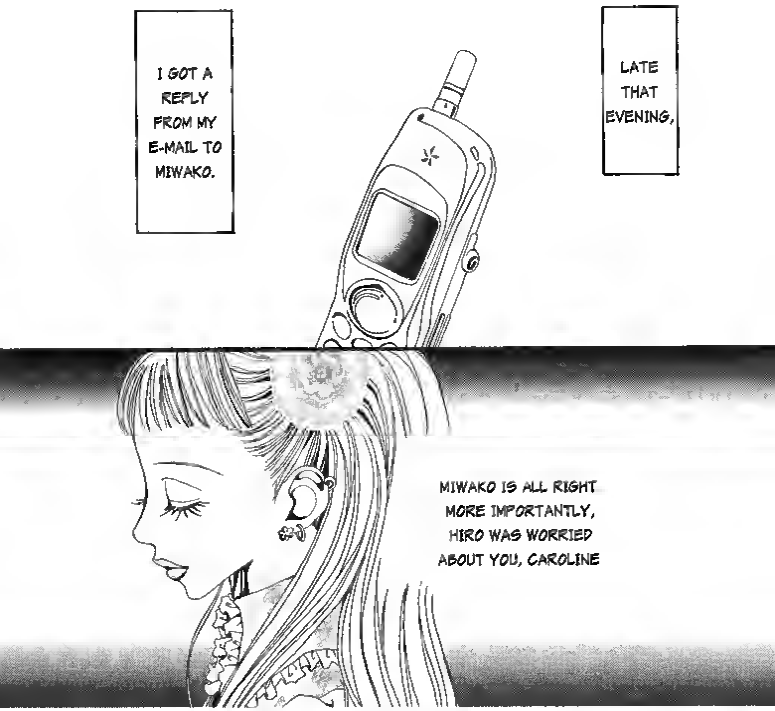
I CAN'T FIND A JOB...
Weekly Employment News
CARRIE, YOU'VE ONLY BEEN LOOKING FOR HALF A DAY. YOU CAN'T LOSE HEART YET
LIFE IS LONG
DON'T RUSH YOURSELF. SLOW DOWN AND EAT
IT'S MUSHROOM SPAGHETTI ♥
SHIRP SHIRP
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING, ISABELLA.
I'LL BE YOU BACK SOMETIME
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORK
IF YOU TALK TO MY DAD, HE'LL GIVE YOU AS MUCH MONEY AS YOU NEED
YOU JUST HAVE TO SPEND ONE NIGHT WITH HIM
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME YOUR DAD'S LOVER NUMBER TWO!
MIWAKO LEFT SCHOOL EARLY THIS AFTERNOON. SHE SAID HER STOMACH HURT
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S MIWAKO?
THAT SOT
GEORGE HAS BEEN IN A GOOD MOOD LIKE THAT ALL DAY ♥
IT MUST BE THE POWER OF YOUR LOVE, CARRIE
I THINK YOU'D BE NUMBER ONE AT LEAST
LOVER NUMBER TWO!!
あはは


IS THAT SHE ALRIGHT?
ISN'T THAT HER USUAL PIG-HEADED?
DID YOU HAVE A FIGHT?
YOU SHOULD LEARN FROM ME AND YUKARI.
SHUT UP!
AND WHAT ARE YOU MAKING WITH THE EMBROIDERY BEADS?!
QUIT PLAYING AND WORK!
THAT'S RIGHT
HER DISEASE I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED WITH TOKUMORI AGAIN...
DON'T BE RUDE
I'M MAKING AN ACCESSORY FOR THE SHOW
LEAVE THAT UNTIL WE HAVE EXTRA TIME!
BUT I'M IN THE MOOD TO MAKE ONE NOW
I'LL E-MAIL HER.
I'M DONE
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
YOU ARE GOOD
YUKARI,
TRY THIS ON
HUH? WHAT?
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF TYPING AN E-MAIL. HOLD ON A SEC
JUST TRY IT ON.
GEEZ...

IT'S PER-FECT.
GOOD.
YOU DON'T NEED TO PUT IT ON THIS FINGER
IF HE'S TOYING WITH ME, I WISH HE'D STOP.
...WHO'D DIE BEFORE PLEDGING ETERNAL LOVE.
YOU'RE THE TYPE OF GUY...

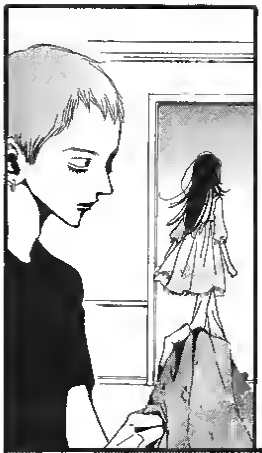
YOU'RE
JUST FILLING
ME WITH SILLY
PIPE DREAMS.

STAGE 25


I GOT A REPLY FROM MY E-MAIL TO MIWAKO.
LATE THAT EVENING,
MIWAKO IS ALL RIGHT
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HIRO WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, CAROLINE

...TALK TO TOKUMORI ABOUT THIS?
WHEN IN THE WORLD DID MIWAKO...
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED BETWEEN HER AND TOKUMORI.
YUKARI, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
ABOUT A GUY OTHER THAN YOU.

WHAT'S WITH THAT COOL SMILE
HMMMM
IF YOU THINK I SPEND THE WHOLE DAY THINKING ABOUT YOU, YOU'RE MISTAKEN
CAN I TAKE THE RING OFF?
NO!
BUT THAT RING IS FOR THE SHOW. IF IT BREAKS BEFORE THEN
NO PROBLEM!
I'LL BE CAREFUL NOT TO BREAK IT
SOMETHING THAT BIG WILL ONLY GET IN THE WAY.
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME!
I'M SURE IT'LL BREAK AND IT'LL BE IN THE WAY
SHE TRIED WHINING
.....
I'LL TAKE IT OFF MYSELF!
I COULD TIE YOU UP.



I WAS A FOOL TO GET EXCITED EVEN FOR A MOMENT.

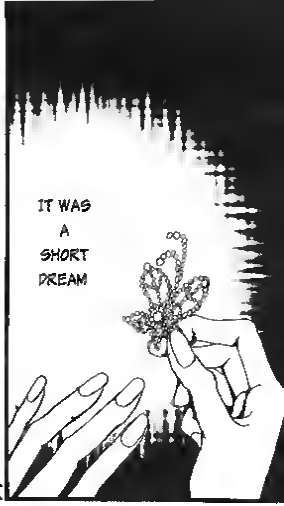
TO GEORGE IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A PROP FOR THE SHOW

GOOD NIGHT

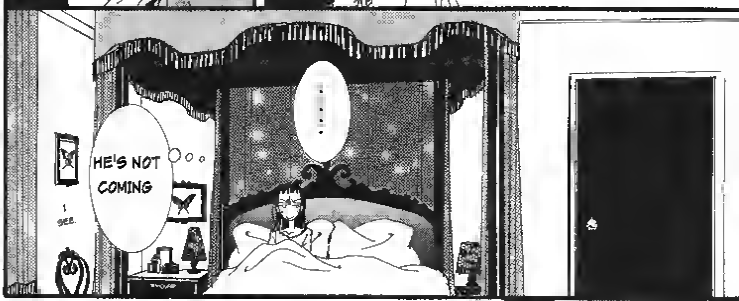
THAT'S THE SPIRIT

LATE NIGHTS ARE BAD FOR MY SKIN. SO I'M GOING TO SLEEP

HERE



IT WAS A SHORT DREAM



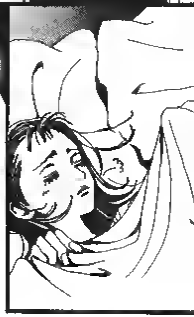
HE'S NOT COMING

I SEE.

BUT I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY PLACE ELSE TO GO.

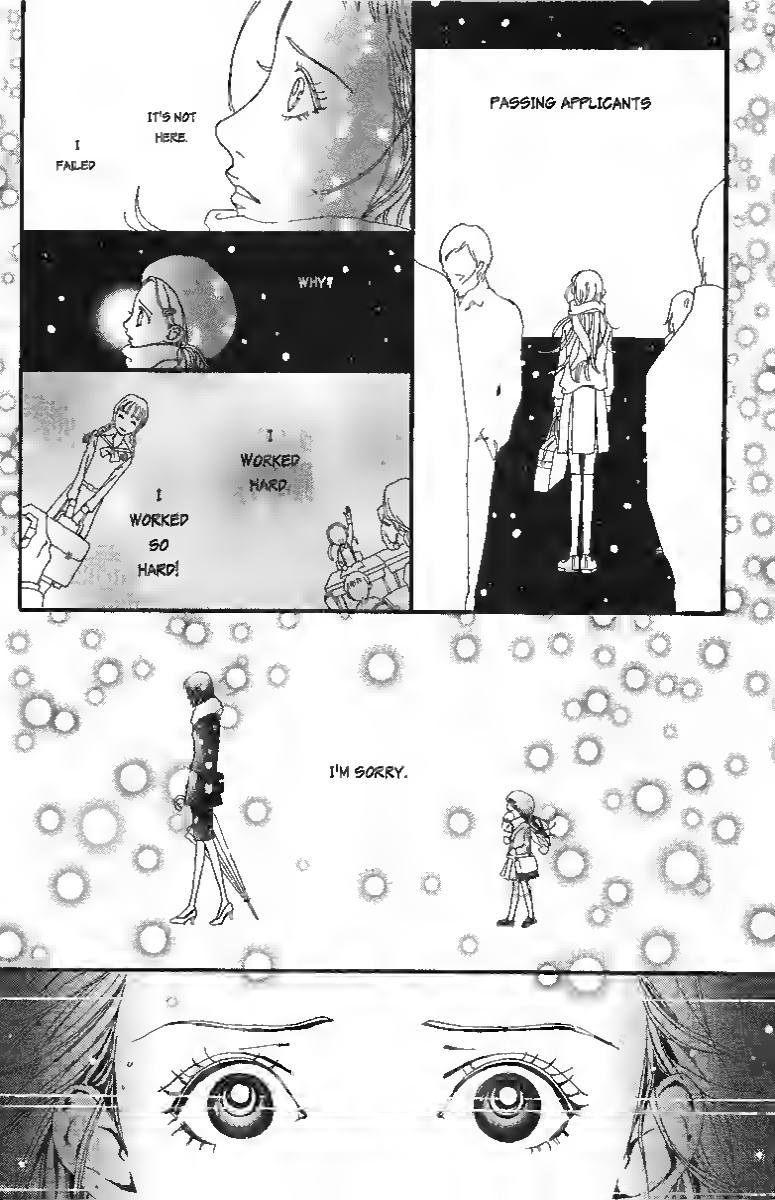
THE MORE GEORGE'S TOYING WITH ME ON A WHIM IRRITATES ME

THE MORE WE'RE TOGETHER,

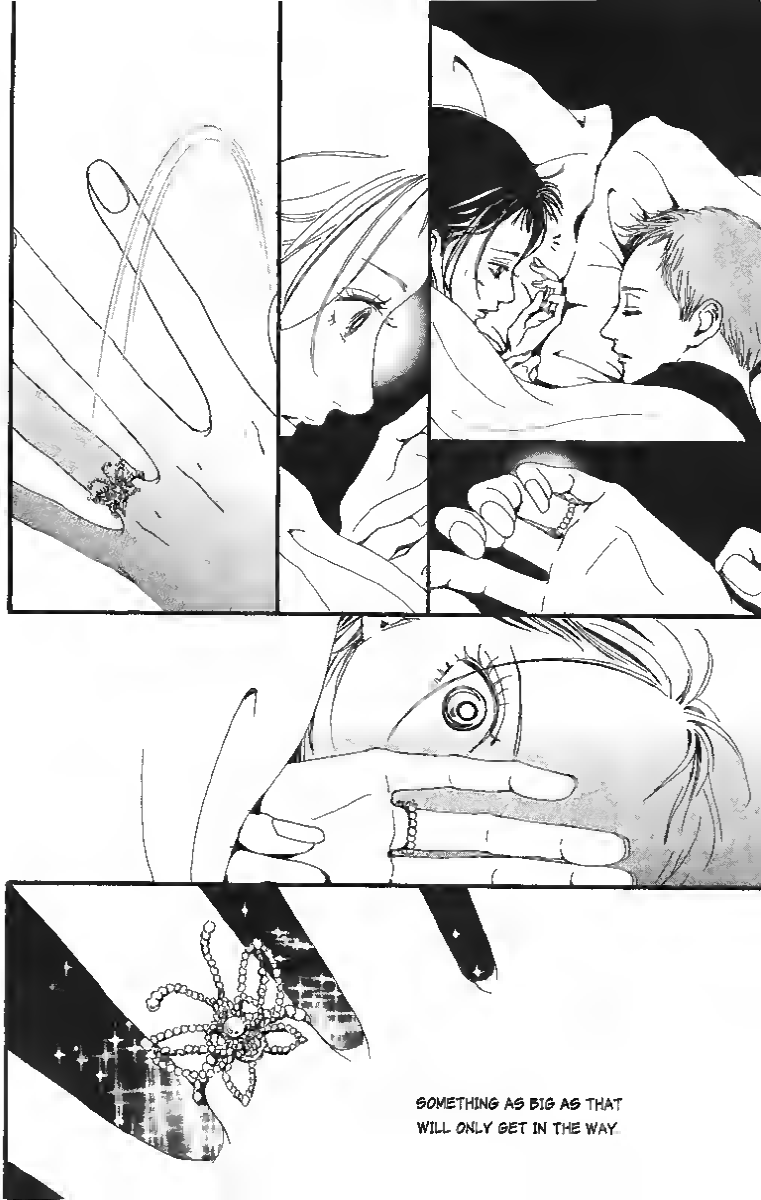


WILL I REALLY BE ABLE TO MAKE IT FROM NOW ON?

HIRO WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, CAROLINE
WHEN I ASKED, "IS YUKARI THERE?" SHE SAID, "NOT HERE" AND HUNG UP.
MY OWN MOTHER
STILL HASN'T EVEN CALLED ME.
I HONESTLY DIDN'T THINK SHE WOULD ABANDON ME THIS LONG.
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FACE HER ANYWAY.
HOWEVER, IF THE PHONE RANG RIGHT NOW,
I CAN'T FIND A JOB, SO I'M STAYING WITH A GUY.
I MANAGED TO GET ONE JOB AS A MODEL, BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL LEAD TO ANOTHER ONE.
I HAVEN'T TAKEN EVEN ONE STEP FORWARD YET.
MAYBE I'M JUST RUNNING AWAY FROM A REALITY THAT I CAN'T FACE.


I FAILED
IT'S NOT HERE.
WHY?
I WORKED HARD.
I WORKED SO HARD!
PASSING APPLICANTS
I'M SORRY.

A DREAM
BUT THIS SEEMS LIKE IT SHOULD BE A DREAM
THIS ISN'T A DREAM, IS IT?


SOMETHING AS BIG AS THAT
WILL ONLY GET IN THE WAY.

GEORGE...
HUH?
WHAT?
YOU WANNA DO IT?
I'M TIRED BUT...
WHAT'S WRONG
LATE NIGHTS ARE BAD FOR YOUR SKIN
LET'S DO IT IN THE MORNING ♥
I'M AWAKE IN THE MORNING

I'LL GRAB THE FUTURE WITH THESE HANDS
I'LL WORK HARD
NO MATTER HOW HARD IT GETS, I WON'T RUN AWAY
THIS TIME, I WON'T LOSE.
I HAVE SOME THINGS I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT TOO
DON'T SAY THAT JUST JOIN ME FOR LUNCH
I COULD HAVE ASKED OVER THE PHONE, BUT
I JUST GOT HERE
IT'S OKAY
AND AFTER I WAS THE ONE TO ASK YOU TO COME
I'M SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, MIKAKO! I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY

WELCOME
LUNCH SPECIAL FOR TWO ♥
AH,
I KNOW IT MAY BE ARROGANT OF ME, BUT I'M SERIOUS...
YES
UM
BUT I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO GET MORE MODELING JOBS. I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT GIVE ME SOME ADVICE...
HAVE YOU DECIDED TO BE SERIOUS ABOUT MODELING?
SO...
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO ASK?
THE TRUTH IS, A FRIEND OF MINE RECENTLY STARTED A MODELING AGENCY
THAT MAKES THINGS EASY.
IT'S LIKE AN ACTING AGENCY.
OH.
HUH?
WHAT DOES IT DO?
UM
WHAT'S A MODELING AGENCY?
IT'S A COMPANY THAT ORGANIZES JOBS FOR THE MODELS WHO SIGN WITH THEM.
WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT YOU, CAROLINE, SHE WAS DETERMINED TO HAVE YOU.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WOULD YOU JUST MEET THE PRESIDENT AT LEAST ONCE?
A MODELING AGENCY?

I WANT TO WORK THERE!
SHE DOESN'T HAVE TOO MANY MODELS YET
BUT FOR LITTLE ONES, YOU'D BE ABLE TO START IMMEDIATELY
FOR BIG JOBS, YOU MAY NEED TO AUDITION,
YUP
IF I GET IN THERE, THEN I CAN GET JOBS AS A MODEL?
HUH...
THEN...
HUH?!
THEN I'LL CALL HER RIGHT AWAY.
THIS IS ABOUT THE LONG BLACK HAIR WITH THE LONG LEGS I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE OTHER DAY
CAN WE TALK?
HELLO? IT'S MIKAKO ♥
AH
THEY SAY THERE'S ALWAYS A CATCH.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I DOUBT MIKAKO, BUT...
WAIT... THIS SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.
AH, YES!
CAN YOU MAKE IT?
SHE SAYS COME AROUND TWO
GOT IT, HOLD ON
YUP, YOU HAVE TIME TODAY?
LONG BLACK HAIR WITH THE LONG LEGS ?
SOUNDS LIKE SALES TALK.

I SEE...
I HAVE A LOT OF WORK GETTING MY COLLECTION TOGETHER SO I CAN'T GO WITH YOU.
SORRY
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT...
OOPS, I ANSWERED BY REFLEX
HERE YOU GO
YUP, THANKS ♥
IT'S OKAY WITH HER, TOO
LATER THEN
HUH?
WHAT ABOUT YOU ?
I'LL DRAW YOU A MAP TO THE OFFICE.
IT'S PRETTY CLOSE TO HERE, SO YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM
I FEEL LIKE I'LL GET PUNISHED IF I GET TOO CONFIDENT
EVERYTHING IS JUST FALLING INTO PLACE, BANG BANG. IT'S KIND OF SCARY...
IT JUST SEEMS...
YES ...
THE PRESIDENT USED TO BE A MODEL, SO SHE'LL BE MUCH BETTER TO TALK TO THAN ME.
DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT.
I DON'T THINK SOMEONE GIVING IT THEIR ALL SHOULD BE PUNISHED.
FROM NOW ON, THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
THE FACT THAT EVERYTHING IS FALLING INTO PLACE IS JUST PROOF THAT THIS IS THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU
HUH? WHY?

IT DEPENDS ON HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.
LET'S EAT ♥
I SEE... THAT NAKED LOOK...
.....
I HAVE TO GET TO WHERE I CAN FEED MYSELF
BUT I'M ALWAYS HAVING PEOPLE BUY MY MEALS
BINGO FOR THE MEAL
THIS WAS FUN ♪♪
THAT WAS GOOD ♥
AH,
I HAVE TO WORK ON THAT
GETTING PESSIMISTIC AND BENT OUT OF SHAPE IS A BAD HABIT OF MINE
AH! I SEE
HUH?
PARA-KISS
SO THEY'RE GEORGE'S DESIGNS
IT'S BEEN BOTHER-ING ME
COME TO THINK OF IT
LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
THAT'S A NICE OUTFIT! ♥
WHERE'D YOU GET IT?

DAMMIT!
I WON'T LET HIM BEAT ME!
HE'S GOING TO BE A RIVAL IN THE FUTURE!
THANKS A LOT FOR TODAY.
YUP
OH, MY SHOW IS NOVEMBER 15.
I MENTIONED IT IN PASSING THE OTHER DAY, BUT IF YOU'LL REALLY TAKE PART, CAROLINE,
I'D LIKE TO ADD ANOTHER PIECE TO THE SHOW.
CAN YOU KEEP YOUR SCHEDULE OPEN FOR ME?
YES!
OF COURSE!

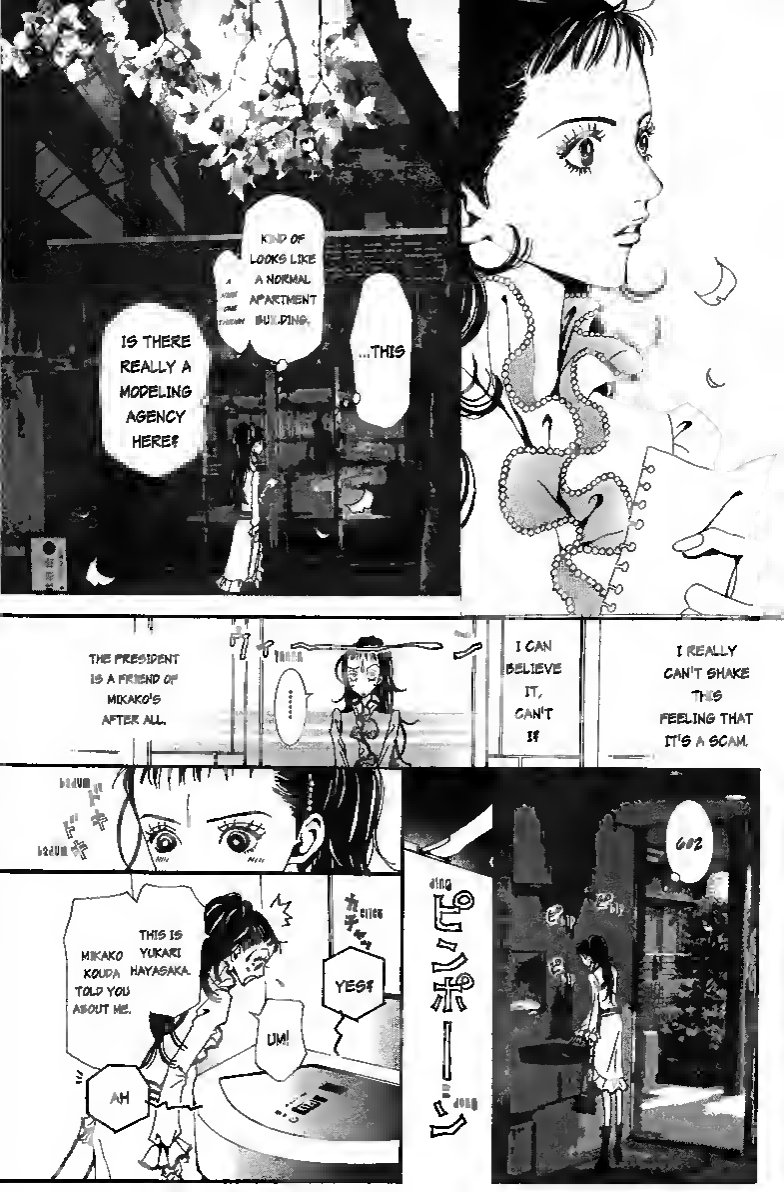
I HAD A TAIL-WIND BEHIND ME.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
OKAY!
I'LL CONTACT YOU WITH THE DETAILS AND STUFF LATER ON
I'M GLAD. ♥
I FELT I COULD FLY AS HIGH AS I WANTED RIGHT NOW.

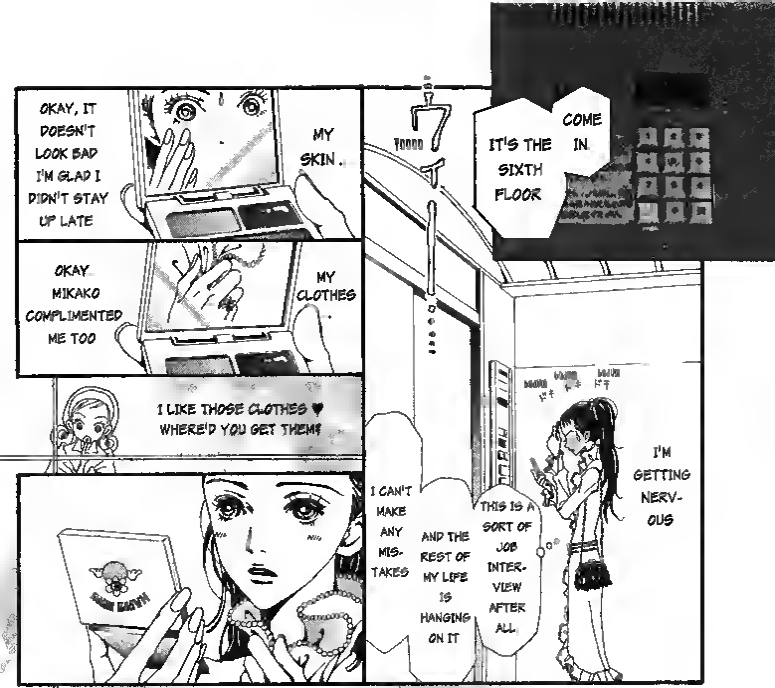
STAGE 26

PUT DOWN YOUR PENCILS
THAT'S IT.
PASS YOUR PAPERS FORWARD
キーン king
コーン king
カーン king
SEIEI ACADEMY
UH OH
I DIDN'T REALIZE
AH, WAS IT?
HUH?
HEY, HIROYUKI, THAT QUESTION NUMBER 1...
THAT WAS A TRICK QUESTION RIGHT OFF THE BAT
I GOT SUCKERED RIGHT INTO IT.
WHAT'S WRONG? THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU
I'M MORE SHOCKED ABOUT YOU THAN ME.
NOTHING THAT HAPPENS SOMETIMES
I'M SURE I DID WELL ON THE OTHER PROBLEMS.
FRANKLY
.....

.....
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HAYASAKA, AREN'T YOU?
HAYA-SAKA IS A BABE! ♥
I KNEW IT
SHE'S MISSED FOUR DAYS AT THE MOST IMPORTANT TIME
IT'S ONLY NATURAL. SHE'S OUR CLASS-MATE
SURE TO BE ON THE TEST
THIS AND THIS AND THIS
.....
IF I TELL YOU SOMETHING, WILL YOU SHOW ME WHAT TO STUDY FOR WORLD HISTORY TOMORROW?
THE HOMEROOM TEACHER SAID SHE'S GOT A COLD... WITH A HIGH FEVER.
WHY DON'T YOU GO VISIT HER?
GOOD LUCK ♡
YOU GO AHEAD!
SORRY! FORGOT SOME-THING!
YES.
WE GOT A CALL FROM HAYASAKA'S MOTHER ON THE FIRST DAY OF EXAMS

IS THAT SO?
WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT THE EXAMS, SHE WAS VERY WORRIED IT SEEMED LIKE SHE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THEM.
HOWEVER, I TOLD HER THAT WE CAN ARRANGE FOR HAYASAKA TO RETAKE THE TESTS, SO SHE'S NOT TO OVERDO IT
AH THEN
IF SHE RETAKES THE TESTS THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM
BUT USUALLY, YOU TELL YOUR PARENTS ABOUT THE MIDTERMS
I WONDER IF HAYASAKA IS SERIOUS
HER GRADES JUST KEEP FALLING
WELL, I SHOULDN'T BE COMPLAINING TO YOU THOUGH
WELL WELL
IF SHE CONTINUES TO MISS SCHOOL, I'LL HAVE TO VISIT HER TO CHECK UP ON THINGS
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW SHE IS, I CAN CHECK ON HER WHEN I GO VISIT HER
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, TOKUMORI!
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HER JUST CONCENTRATE ON YOUR OWN EXAMS
PLEASE.


IS THERE REALLY A MODELING AGENCY HERE?
KIND OF LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL APARTMENT BUILDING.
...THIS
THE PRESIDENT IS A FRIEND OF MIKAKO'S AFTER ALL.
I CAN BELIEVE IT, CAN'T I?
I REALLY CAN'T SHAKE THIS FEELING THAT IT'S A SCAM.
ピンポーン
602
THIS IS YUKARI HAYASAKA.
MIKAKO KOUDA TOLD YOU ABOUT ME.
YES?
UM!
AH


COME IN.
IT'S THE SIXTH FLOOR
DING
I'M GETTING NERV-OUS
THIS IS A SORT OF JOB INTER-VIEW AFTER ALL.
I CAN'T MAKE ANY MIS-TAKES
AND THE REST OF MY LIFE IS HANGING ON IT
I LIKE THOSE CLOTHES ♥ WHERE'D YOU GET THEM?
OKAY MIKAKO COMPLIMENTED ME TOO
MY CLOTHES
OKAY, IT DOESN'T LOOK BAD I'M GLAD I DIDN'T STAY UP LATE
MY SKIN

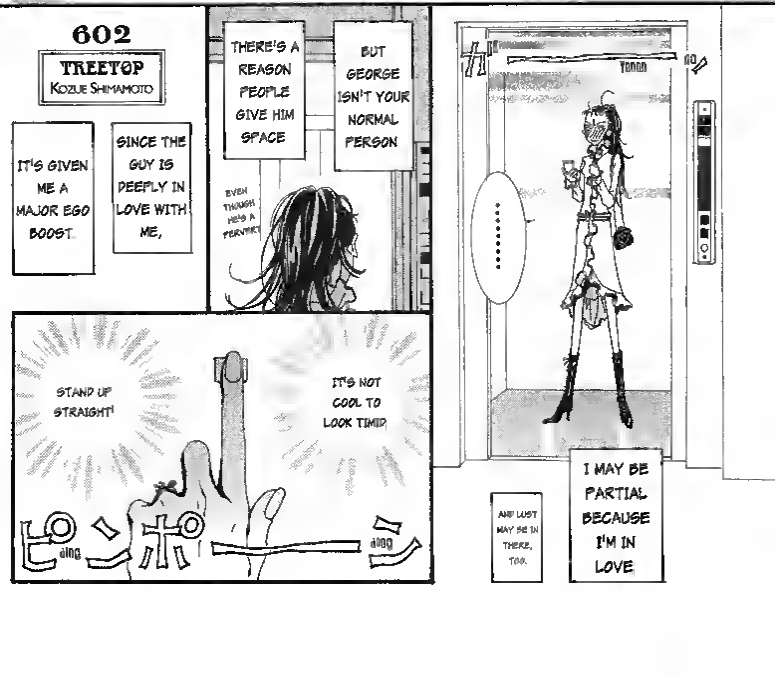
HE'S GOING TO BE A RIVAL IN THE FUTURE!

.....
THE ROOM NEXT TO THE BEDROOM IS A CLOSET
YOU CAN WEAR ANYTHING YOU WANT FROM IN THERE
I'M GOING TO GO SEE ♥
ANY CLOTHES I LIKE?
SPOOK
!!
WHAT IS THIS?!
AMAZING!!
THE WHOLE ROOM IS A CLOSET!

I'D NEVER SELL THE THINGS HERE
I'M FOND OF ALL OF THEM THEY HAVE SPECIAL MEANING
IF YOU LIKE THEM, THEN I THINK THAT'S ALL THE MORE REASON TO SELL THEM
I'VE REMADE SEVERAL OF THEM TO SELL. THEY'RE AT THE STUDIO
YES.
THE PARA-KISS TAG SHOWS THE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN REMADE
IS THAT SO?
THERE'S PLENTY ENOUGH TO OPEN A STORE!
ALL OF THESE!
NO WAY THERE ARE SOME I'VE BOUGHT
NO WAY YOU MADE ALL OF THE CLOTHES IN HERE!
GEORGE!
BUT I DID MAKE ALL OF THE LADIES CLOTHES
THAT'S RIGHT

HUH?
THIS IS THE ONLY CHILDREN'S SIZE.
YOU MADE THIS TOO?
IT'S REALLY CUTE THOUGH
AH,
THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES
I MADE THAT IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ELEMENTARY?!
I THINK I WAS IN THIRD GRADE AT THE TIME...
IT'S MADE PRETTY WELL FOR BACK THEN I AM SAYS
THIRD GRADE? THAT MEANS YOU.
WHOA
YOU'VE BEEN MAKING WOMEN'S CLOTHES FROM THE TIME YOU WERE LITTLE?
YES
BUT AS SOON AS I MADE THEM, ISABELLA WOULD STEAL THEM.
THIS ONE MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED
YOU'RE A STRANGE KID!
YOU THINK?
PERVERT!
.....
THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL GENIUS
.....
I CAN ONLY SAY I'M IMPRESSED.
I CAN REALLY WEAR ANY OF THESE?
YES
BUT AREN'T THEY IMPORTANT TO YOU?
YES
AND SUCH AN ATTENTION TO DETAIL..
TO BE SURE, WHEN YOU SEE THIS MUCH OF AN ATTACHMENT TO CLOTHES ...

I WANT YOU TO WEAR THEM.


602
TREETOP
Kozue Shimamoto
IT'S GIVEN ME A MAJOR EGO BOOST.
SINCE THE GUY IS DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH ME,
THERE'S A REASON PEOPLE GIVE HIM SPACE
BUT GEORGE ISN'T YOUR NORMAL PERSON
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A PERVERT
STAND UP STRAIGHT!
IT'S NOT COOL TO LOOK TIMID
Tonan
.....
I MAY BE PARTIAL BECAUSE I'M IN LOVE
AND LUST MAY BE IN THERE, TOO.

AH!
WELCOME!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU
AH, PLEASE COME IN
YES THANK YOU
IS THIS THE PRESIDENT?
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE COULD BE A MODEL.
SHE'S TALLER THAN ME, AND THINNER, TOO...
AH, HELLO!
SORRY, I HAVE A VISITOR, SO I'M HANGING UP
WOW! SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!!
SUCH A SMALL FACE!
I'M LOSING RIGHT OFF THE BAT
HUH?
YES YES I'M LISTENING
ISN'T SHE A FORMER MODEL..
I THINK MIKAKO SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT..
COME TO THINK SHE SEEMS FAMILIAR.
FROM TV COMMERCIALS.
IT'S NO GOOD TELLING ME THAT.
gasp
SHE'S GOT HER OWN PICTURE ON DISPLAY.
YOU CAN SEE HER NIPPLE...

YES,
HE'S TRAINED YOU THAT WAY TO MAKE YOU EASY TO HANDLE
WHAT'S THAT?
THE 'OL WHIP-THEN-CANDY PLAN?
HUH?
BUT YOU JUST LEFT HOME AND QUIT SCHOOL AND GOT SUCKED RIGHT IN
BUT AS A PERSON, YOU KNEW FROM THE START HE WAS WORTHLESS!
I KNOW THAT GUY IS TOP CLASS,
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING NOW? IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT!
WAKE UP ALREADY! HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO LET HIM KEEP YOU LIKE A PET?
THERE'S NO LOVE IN THERE.
NO, NO,
HIS KINDNESS IS ALL CALCULATED
THIS REALLY IS OFFICE 1
IT LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL ROOM.
HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO WORTHLESS JR ABOUT THAT?
OH, RIGHT.
I'LL GO MYSELF.
OKAY THEN. LATER
NO ANSWER
SORRY
ANYWAY, I HAVE A VISITOR, SO I'LL CALL YOU LATER
AH...
AND YUKINO!
ZING
ZING
THEY COULD BE TALKING ABOUT ME.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU ♥
TREETOP Kozue Shimamoto
MY NAME IS SHIMAMOTO, I REPRESENT TREETOP.
YES
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
IT'S YUKARI, RIGHT?
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
YUKARI HAYAOKA
SHE'S FULL OF CONFIDENT BEAUTY...
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S RETIRED FROM MODELING,
SHE REALLY IS PRETTY.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU...
SMALL?!
ANYWAY, I'LL PUT SOME TEA ON. PLEASE HAVE A SEAT.
YUKARI
HOW TALL ARE YOU?
AM I REALLY MEANT FOR THIS WORK?
MY CONFIDENCE IS DISAPPEARING BY THE MINUTE
SO THAT MEANS THE WORKING PROS MUST BE...?
WELL...
YOU'RE SMALL.
YES!
I'M 5'0"

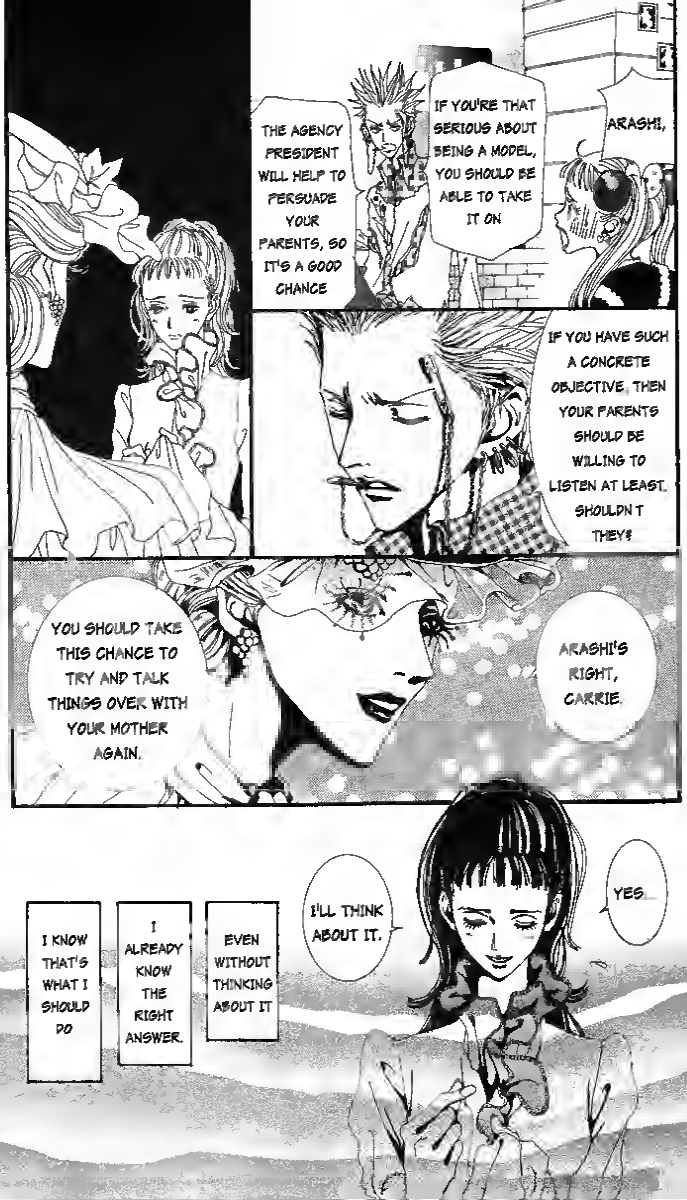
IS 5'8" TOO SMALL TO BE A MODEL?
I'M LOOKING FOR A BUILDING RIGHT NOW.
AT SOME POINT, I'LL OPEN A PROPER OFFICE.
IT'S JUST ME SO RIGHT NOW, I'M USING MY HOME AS AN OFFICE.
THERE ISN'T ANY OTHER PERSON HERE.
THERE ARE ONLY THREE MODELS SO FAR AND
MY COMPANY WAS ONLY INCORPORATED THREE MONTHS AGO
WON'T YOU SIT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
SO THAT'S IT...
.....
THAT'S A GOOD THING
YOUR LIMBS ARE LONG SO YOU LOOK TALLER IN PHOTOS
IT SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE TALLER IN THE POLAROID THAT MIKAKO SHOWED ME
I'M THE SAME WAY
THAT'S NOT IT.
AH,
YOU WERE JUST SMALLER THAN I THOUGHT
WE HAVE ONE GIRL HERE WHO'S IN THE 5'4" RANGE.
NO, THAT'S PERFECTLY OKAY.
HUH? BUT...
YOU JUST SAID I WAS SMALL...

THANK GOOD-NESS!
AHA HA HA
WHAT?!
YOU WANT TO BE A MODEL THAT MUCH
MUSH
AHA HA HA HA
IT'S JUST SO UNUSUAL TO SEE SUCH DRIVE OR SERIOUSNESS THESE DAYS
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
THAT'S TRUE.
YOU'RE INTERESTING. I LIKE YOU
SHE'S KIND OF RUDE
DON'T LAUGH
I WOULDN'T COME HERE IF NOT
OF COURSE ..

IT'S ALL RIGHT
LEAVE IT TO ME
I'LL TURN YOU INTO A TOP MODEL ♥
A TOP MODEL?
YES.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
あはは
I GOT A GLIMPSE OF THE SEVERITY OF THE WORLD I WAS TRYING TO BREAK INTO
IN FRONT OF THIS LADY PRESIDENT WHO WAS SO MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ME AND INCREDIBLY RUDE,
...SO I THOUGHT...
...PROVED TO HAVE DIFFICULTIES WAITING JUST AHEAD
HOWEVER, WHAT HAD SEEMED LIKE SMOOTH-SAILING

STAGE 27
YOU NEED THAT TO ENTER A MODELING AGENCY?
YOUR PARENTS' PERMISSION?
THAT'S TERRIBLE

I TOLD HER SHE DIDN'T NEED TO DO THAT, BUT SHE SAID THAT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT...
YES
THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT SHE WOULD GIVE ME THE DETAILS AFTER SHE SPOKE TO MY PARENTS.
DID YOU EXPLAIN TO HER ABOUT LEAVING HOME AND SCHOOL?
YOU'RE STILL UNDERAGE AND YOU ARE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL AFTER ALL.
OF COURSE.
I RAN AWAY AFTER TELLING HER I'D CALL AGAIN LATER.
I GOT THE FEELING THAT SHE'D TAKE ME STRAIGHT BACK HOME.
NO
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TELL EVERYTHING TO SISSY AND ASK FOR HER ADVICE!
THAT'S EVEN MORE IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT IF I WERE TO DRESS UP AS YOUR MOTHER?
PRESIDENT IS MIKAKO'S FRIEND AS WELL.
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
OR ACTED LIKE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PARENTS...
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE LIED ABOUT MY AGE.
YOU SHOULD GO BACK HOME, YUKARI.
IT'S OBVIOUS I'M NOT GOING TO SCHOOL THOUGH.
I COULDN'T TELL ALL THIS TO MIKAKO EVEN
NO
BUT SISSY IS...
WHAT WOULD THAT HELP?
DO YOU THINK THERE'S AN ADULT THAT WOULD ACCEPT THAT SHE'S LEFT HOME AND ENDED UP LIVING WITH A GUY?


ARASHI,
IF YOU'RE THAT SERIOUS ABOUT BEING A MODEL, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE IT ON
THE AGENCY PRESIDENT WILL HELP TO PERSUADE YOUR PARENTS, SO IT'S A GOOD CHANCE
IF YOU HAVE SUCH A CONCRETE OBJECTIVE, THEN YOUR PARENTS SHOULD BE WILLING TO LISTEN AT LEAST. SHOULDN'T THEY?
ARASHI'S RIGHT, CARRIE.
YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS CHANCE TO TRY AND TALK THINGS OVER WITH YOUR MOTHER AGAIN.
YES...
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
EVEN WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT IT
I ALREADY KNOW THE RIGHT ANSWER.
I KNOW THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO

MIWAKO IS SURE CAROLINE WANTS TO TALK TO GEORGE MOST OF ALL RIGHT NOW
THAT'S RIGHT.
BUT GEORGE NEVER SHOWED HIS FACE, DID HE?
AND HE DIDN'T ANSWER HIS CELL PHONE LIKE ALWAYS.
I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH GEORGE AGAIN...
BUT IF I GO HOME RIGHT NOW,
WHAT'S HE THINKING AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
I'M TALKING ABOUT THE PREPARA-TIONS FOR THE SHOW!
DO YOU WANT TO COME OVER AND WORK WITH MIWAKO, ARASHI?
MIWAKO WILL GET THE BEADS FOR THE BODICE DONE TONIGHT.
THERE'S NO PROBLEM THERE.
!!
.....
NO

HIRO AND MIWAKO
JUST MET BY CHANCE AND TALKED A BIT..
WHY ARE YOU SO MAD ABOUT THAT?
I'M MAD BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN TALKING TO ME ALL DAY LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED
DAMN RIGHT I'M MAD!
YOU'RE STILL MAD AT MIWAKO..
YOU'VE GOT SOME KIND OF NERVE.
BUT NOTHING REALLY HAPPENED!
I'VE GOTTA THINK THAT SOMETHING HAPPENED
BECAUSE YOU..
WERE PLAYING DUMB ALL THIS TIME
MIWAKO THOUGHT YOU'D BE MAD IF SHE TOLD YOU!
YOU GET MAD EITHER WAY, ARASHI!
WHY CAN'T YOU BELIEVE IN MIWAKO MORE?!

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T BELIEVE IN YOU.
SNIFF
DON'T CRY
UH
IT'S ALRIGHT ALREADY
SNIFF
SNIFF
.....
sniff
THAT'S NOT REALLY YOUR PLACE IS IT?
NO!
THEN WILL YOU COME TO MY HOUSE TO...
!
YOU COME TO MY PLACE?
Ah

I GET THE FEELING THAT THAT WOULD BE THE END
IF I GO BACK HOME NOW, AND I CAN'T SEE HIM WHEN I LIKE,
ONCE THE FASHION SHOW IS OVER
ONCE THIS DRESS IS FINISHED
WILL GEORGE STILL NEED ME?
AND I ALWAYS END UP FEELING WORRIED
I STILL CAN'T GRASP WHAT GEORGE IS THINKING AT ALL.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME WE SPEND TOGETHER GROWS
THE BEADING OF THE SLEEVES IS DONE!
OKAY! FINISHED
ピンポーン
ding
dong

I WONDER IF I SHOULD ANSWER IT?
GEORGE ISN'T BACK YET
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WITH HIM, IT MIGHT BE ANOTHER GUY
IT MIGHT BE ANOTHER GIRL
THIS LATE AT NIGHT...
WHO COULD THAT BE?
ding dong
...
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME WHERE HE GOES OR WITH WHOM, BUT IF HE'S GOING TO BE LATE, A PHONE CALL...
SERIOUSLY! WHY ISN'T HE BACK YET?!
AH WELL...
I'D BE SCARED IF HE DID
ISN'T SOMETHING HE'D DO
EITHER WAY, I'M THE ONE GETTING THE RUNAROUND
AH ♥

I'M SO SORRY TO BE TAKING UP YOUR SPACE.
YES, I'M HERE.
I RANG THE BELL!
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU ANSWER THE DOOR!
HUH!
YOU'RE HERE
HUH!
THAT WAS YOU, GEORGE!
HUH!
SO THAT'S IT
WHO DID YOU THINK IT WAS!
PHEW
DON'T YOU HAVE A KEY!!
NO ONE
I WANTED A GREETING
WHY DID YOU RING THE BELL!
HUH!
WELCOME HOME, GEORGE ♥
DO YOU WANT DINNER! DO YOU WANT A BATH!
OR DO YOU WANT ME!
HMM. I DEFINITELY WANT YOU

I'M SILLY TO BE SO WORRIED ABOUT THIS
HE DRIVES ME CRAZY...
IS A DIFFICULT QUESTION
THAT
I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU...
UM GEORGE,
BUT I HAVE TO THINK
IMPORTANT?
SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN MAKING LOVE TO ME?
BY THIS MOMENTARY PLEASURE
I SHOULDN'T BE SWEPT AWAY
AND MY FUTURE IS DEPENDING ON IT.
I HAVE THE RIGHT ANSWER
AH...
BUT IF IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT IF WE'RE NOT TOGETHER

AAH
AH
AH
AAH
ARASHI...
AH...
HN...
AH
I DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER WAY TO CONNECT WITH YOU
♫
♫
♪
♪
ARA-SHI...
YOUR CELL PHONE'S RINGING.
MMM ?
WHO COULD IT BE AT THIS HOUR
TOO MUCH TROUBLE JUST LEAVE IT
UNIDENTIFIED CALLER...
GEORGE!
HAND IT OVER!
I'LL GIVE HIM A PIECE OF MY MIND!

I'M ON THE PHONE ...
HEY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
HELLO?
YOU'RE DUE TO TALK, ARASHI.
NO, IT'S ME.
HIROYUKI.
HELLO, GEORGES?!

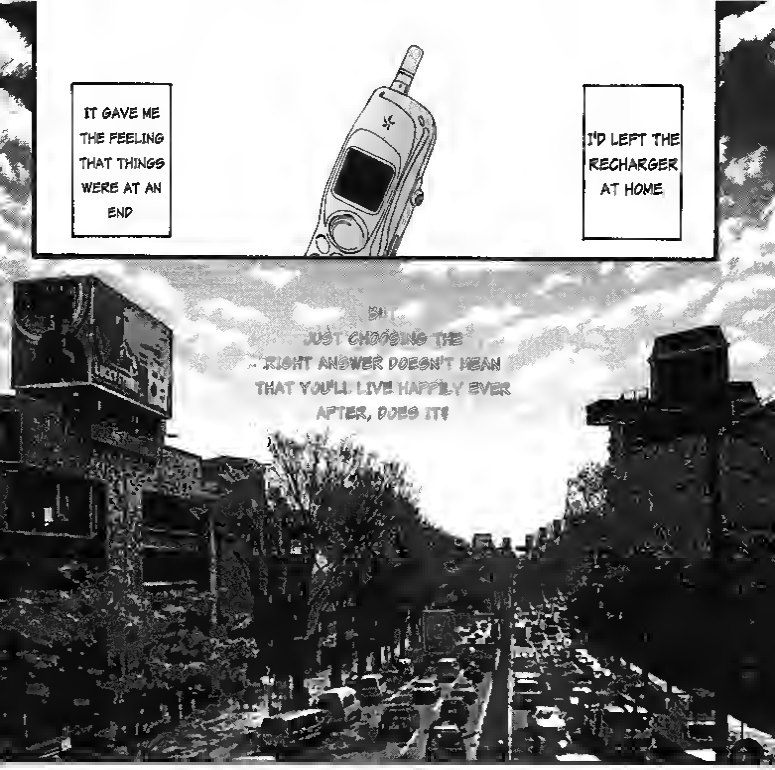
IS IT GEORGES?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR EXAMS?
YOU CERTAINLY HAVE GUTS
LIKE I KNOW?

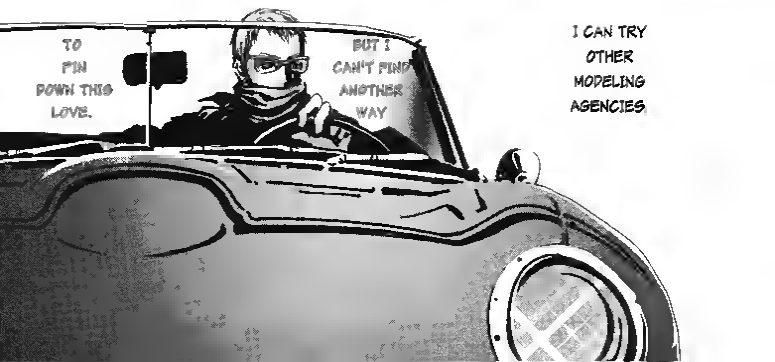
I WAS WORKING AT OUR SHOP AND YOUR MOTHER JUST CAME IN.
SORRY TO CALL AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT
DON'T CLOSE UP ON ME.
SHE SAID YOU RETURNED TO YOUR APARTMENT?
WHAT ABOUT HAYASAKA? WHERE DID YOU HIDE HER?

HAPPY HAPPY HOLIDAY
MIWAKO'S BETTER !
.....
IT'S HIROYUKI.
LET'S GO PICK WILD STRAWBERRIES
YOU'RE HEARING THINGS
SHE'S BESIDE YOU!
AH MIWAKO !
MIWAKO'S BETTER GIVE THE PHONE TO HER
PHO
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO CONTACT HAYASAKA I'VE TRIED TO CALL HER SEVERAL TIMES SINCE ABOUT NOON, BUT SHE DOESN'T ANSWER HER PHONE.
UM,
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU
MIWAKO
H. HELLO
NO
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NO,
CAROLINE WAS WITH US UNTIL A LITTLE BIT AGO, AND SHE SEEMED FINE.
I SEE ...
THAT'S STRANGE
THE STUDIO IS IN THE BASEMENT SO IT'S HARD TO GET A SIGNAL THERE
.....

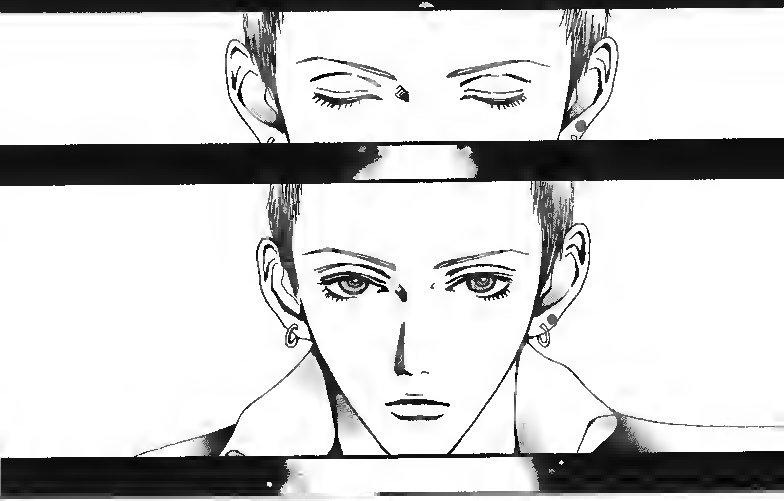
MIWAKO!
SHE'S LIVING HAPPILY WITH GEORGE SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY. ♥
MIWAKO'S GOING TO SEE HER TOMORROW. WOULD YOU LIKE HER TO TAKE A MESSAGE?
YES...
GUESS SO.
WHERE IS HAYASAKA RIGHT NOW?
BUT IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO TALK TO HER FACE TO FACE...
.....
HIKO-YUKI
WHAT'S WITH YOU THESE LAST FEW DAYS?
A TOP STUDENT LIKE YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YUKARI'S GOING THROUGH.
JUST DON'T RAT ON HER TO HER PARENTS OR THE TEACHERS!
SHE'S DOING THE BEST SHE CAN!
DON'T BOTHER HER WITH UNWANTED ADVICE!
YOU'RE ALWAYS PICKING ON CAROLINE, BUT YOU ARE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HER, AREN'T YOU...
WHADDYA MEAN "PICKING ON HER"?!
I'M THE ONLY ONE SERIOUSLY WORRIED ABOUT HER!
CAN'T STAND THIS!
ARASHI

YUKARI,
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TELL ME?
YOU SAID EARLIER
YOU HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL ME.
.....
WHAT IS IT?
I FINISHED THE BEADING ON THE SLEEVES FOR THE SHOW DRESS ♥
THE OTHER PARTS ARE JUST ABOUT DONE SO YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET STARTED ON THE NEXT STEP TOMORROW.
.....
IS THAT IT?
I REALIZED THAT MY CELL PHONE BATTERY WAS DEAD THE NEXT MORNING.
RIGHT NOW!
BE HAPPY RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE THE FIRST WIFE
I WAS AT THE SECOND WIFE'S
AND YOU WERE OUT GALLIVANTING AROUND ALL DAY!
THAT'S IMPORTANT!
WHAT COUNTRY ARE YOU FROM?!


IT GAVE ME THE FEELING THAT THINGS WERE AT AN END
I'D LEFT THE RECHARGER AT HOME
SH
JUST CHOOSING THE RIGHT ANSWER DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU'LL LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER, DOES IT?


TO PIN DOWN THIS LOVE.
BUT I CAN'T FIND ANOTHER WAY
I CAN TRY OTHER MODELING AGENCIES

STAGE 28



GEORGE LOOKS AT ME WITH EYES LIKE BLOODLESS GLASS BEADS.

FROM TIME TO TIME

THOSE COLD BLUE EYES.

THEY MAKE ME UNEASY.

ARE WE GOING TO GATHER THE LACE?

SHALL WE PUT THE LACE ON TO START?

SO

FAINT WHEEZE.

ALTHOUGH THEY'RE ONLY COLOR CONTACTS, THOSE BLUE EYES...

WE CAN'T. WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FOR THAT.

IF WE SPLIT UP THE PARTS, THEN WE'LL BE DONE SOON.

THAT'S REALLY PRETTY LACE.
CAN I SEE?
OH IS THAT SO?
GEORGE DYED THE COLORS.
IT'S A ONE OF A KIND FROM A EUROPEAN DEAD STOCK
WOW
IMPORTS ARE SO IMPRESSIVE.
THE COLORS ARE SO UNIQUE. IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL.
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?
YUKARI.
YOU GO HOME NOW.
HUH?
WHY?
NO
WE'RE DONE WITH EMBROIDERING THE BEADS
YOU WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO IF YOU HANG AROUND HERE
BUT EVEN IF I GO HOME I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO. LET ME HELP.
YOU'RE A THICK HEADED WOMAN.
IT HURTS ME TO BE SO BLUNT, BUT...

YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
MIWAKO CHARGED IT FOR YOU.
HUH?
OH.
CAROLINE, YOU FORGOT SOMETHING.
YOU'RE NOT HURT AT ALL!!
THE CHANDELIER FELL RIGHT TOWARD MY FACE! I'M SCARED!
LISTEN TO YOUR MESSAGES RIGHT AWAY
IT'S INCONVENIENT NOT HAVING MY CELL PHONE.
I'M LUCKY YOU HAVE THE SAME BRAND
THANK YOU, MIWAKO
HUH?
GEORGE IS IN A BAD MOOD TODAY, SO MIWAKO HAS TO GET BACK.
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU HEAR IT
SORRY
IT WASN'T MIWAKO
DID YOU LEAVE ME A MESSAGE, MIWAKO?
HE'S EVEN MAKING MIWAKO CAREFUL AROUND HIM.
THAT MAN...
MIWAKO WILL E-MAIL YOU LATER!

EVERY MORNING HE'S LIKE THAT IT'S CREEPY!
BE A GOOD GIRL.
SEE YOU LATER
KISS
HE WAS SO CHEERFUL UNTIL HE LEFT THIS MORNING
WHAT THE HECK IS IT?!
YES!
WHEN IT COMES TO CLOTHES NOTHING ELSE AROUND HIM MATTERS
BUT AS SOON AS IT CAME TO MAKING THE DRESS, THIS IS WHAT I GET?
<Today's Items> Dress, Purse (ParaKiss) Socks, Tights, Shoes (Happy Berry)
THIS IS TOKUMORI. PLEASE CALL ME
MULTIPLE PERSON ARE HERE TOO
BUT STILL WHAT MADE HIM CHANGE HIS MOOD SO RADICALLY!
.....
A PREP SCHOOL
I'LL BE THERE IN 15 MINUTES
AT THE OUTDOOR CAFE WE WENT TO BEFORE
THEN
YEAH
COULD YOU MEET TO TALK RIGHT NOW?
10/25[Fri] 05 21 pm
LO MAIL
AH! HAYASAKA ? WHERE ARE YOU?

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
……
ストン
ガチャ
AHA HA HA
WHAT?!
I'VE BEEN WORRIED TO DEATH ABOUT YOU
DON'T LAUGH
HA
あはは
THAT'S SO LIKE YOU TOKIMORI
YOU REALLY CAME IN EXACTLY 15 MINUTES
I HAVEN'T BEEN WAITING AT ALL.

WELCOME.
THAT'S
WORRIED TO DEATH
.....
GOING OVER-BOARD
COFFEE
OH
MENU
MIWAKO TOLD ME ABOUT HOW YOU RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
SO...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
ARE YOU WORKING?
NO....
I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND ANY-THING...
HAVEN'T BEEN SEARCH-ING THAT MUCH THOUGH...
BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT...
YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A CHANCE LAST TIME I CALLED
WHAT WAS THAT?
OPEN

OH... YES
DIDN'T MIWAKO TELL YOU?
THE TRUTH IS, I'M THINKING OF BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL MODEL
COUGH
WHEN I SAY IT OUT LOUD LIKE THAT, IT SEEMS AS REAL AS A LITTLE GIRL SAYING SHE WANTS TO BE A PRINCESS
THAT'S THE FIRST I'VE HEARD
BUT YOU'D PROBABLY BE ABLE TO MAKE IT HAYASAKA.
WHEN YOU'RE DRESSED IN YOUR OWN CLOTHES LIKE THAT, YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE A PRO MODEL
DID SOMEONE SCOUT YOU?
WELL... YES...
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT...
BUT THE WORLD DOESN'T ALWAYS GO THAT EASILY...
I'M LOOKING FOR A MODELING AGENCY THAT'LL GIVE ME WORK RIGHT NOW
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING RIGHT NOW
WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING ALL DAY TODAY
I MESSED AROUND PUTTING ON MAKEUP AND CURLING MY HAIR, AND ALL OF A SUDDEN IT'S EVENING ALREADY
WELL I'M REALLY NOT LOOKING
I HEARD YOU'RE STAYING WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND RIGHT NOW?

THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN IF HE DID, I GUESS
DOESN'T HE SAY ANY-THING?
ABOUT SCHOOL, OR LEAVING HOME?
ABOUT YOUR FUTURE?
.....
THAT'S NOT IT, TOKUMORI.
NOT GOING TO SCHOOL AND LEAVING HOME WERE ALL MY OWN DECISIONS
I KNOW THAT
BUT IF HE SAID IT WAS BETTER FOR YOU TO GO HOME AND GO BACK TO SCHOOL,
YOU WOULDN'T BE DOING SOME-THING SO CRAZY, WOULD YOU?
HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
YES, HE DOES...
.....
THIS IS WHAT I'VE DECIDED.
I WON'T DO WHAT ANYONE ELSE SAYS.

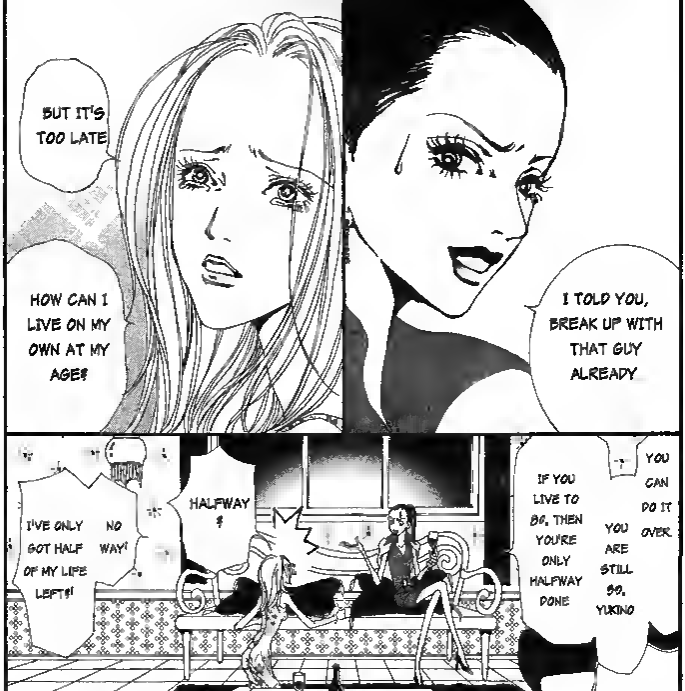
NO ONE CAN BE COMPLETELY SURE OF THEIR OWN WILL
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO STUBBORN?
"NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!" "WHAT ANYONE ELSE SAYS!"
WHAT'S WRONG, HAYASAKA
GEORGE DOESN'T LIKE WOMEN WITHOUT A SENSE OF SELF.
BUT...
EVERYONE IS WORRIED AND CONFUSED AND INFLUENCED BY THE IDEAS OF PEOPLE AROUND THEM
IT'S NATURAL.
I'M NOT SAYING IT'S A BAD THING
AND IF IT'S SOMEONE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH, THEN IT'S EVEN MORE SO. ISN'T IT?
BUT...
INFLUENCED BY THAT IDEA ITSELF.
BUT IN THE END, I'M NOTHING BUT A WOMAN

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING
WHEN YOU TELL ME THAT WHILE CRYING...
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
AREN'T THINGS GOING WELL WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?
THEY'RE GOING WELL!
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY, BUT I'M REALLY HAPPY RIGHT NOW!
SNIFF
SNIFF
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE MAKING ME CRY, TOKUMORI
SORRY
OUT HERE
IF ONLY THAT WERE THE CASE
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF YOUR BOYFRIEND REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU.
WHEN YOU'RE IN SUCH AN UNSTABLE EMOTIONAL STATE,
IF HE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING

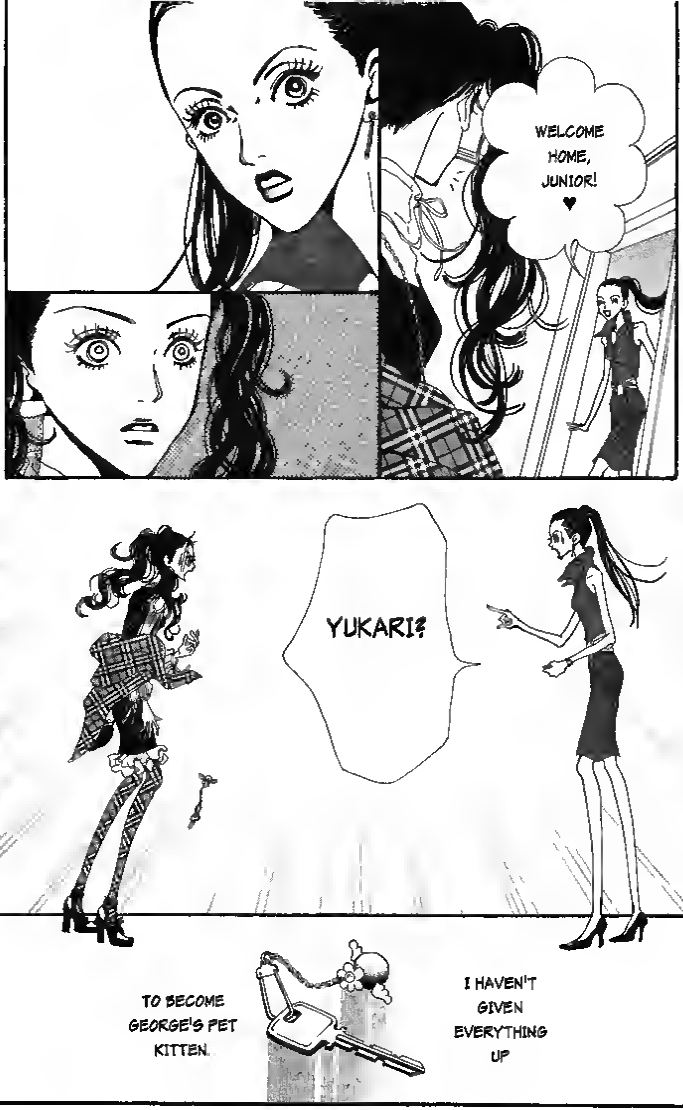
YOU DON'T NEED TO HIT ME WHERE IT HURTS MOST.
.....
PLEASE DON'T CRY!
JUST SO YOU KNOW,
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MADE ME CRY THIS TIME
YOU ACT SO SWEET BUT SAY SUCH MEAN THINGS!
HUH?
SORRY OH...
I'M WITH HIM BECAUSE I WANT TO BE.
I DON'T CARE IF HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME
BUT IT'S ALRIGHT.
.....
I'M THE PERSON WHO'S WORRIED
BUT THAT ONLY MAKES ME EVEN MORE WORRIED
SHUT UP ALREADY!
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE
WHAT...

WHAT AM I SAYING ..
SORR-
THE HOMEROOM TEACHER SAID THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO YOUR HOUSE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO SEE IF YOU'RE ALRIGHT
THE SCHOOL THINKS YOU'RE SICK RIGHT NOW
IF THEY FIND OUT YOU'RE NOT HOME, THEN THINGS WILL BE BAD
YOUR MOTHER WAS THE ONE WHO PUT IN FOR YOUR SICK LEAVE.
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH GETTING EXPELLED?
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TELL YOU
I'M SORRY I STUCK MY NOSE INTO YOUR BUSINESS
TOKUMORI
I'M REALLY SORRY
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING
BUT I'M REALLY ALRIGHT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME..

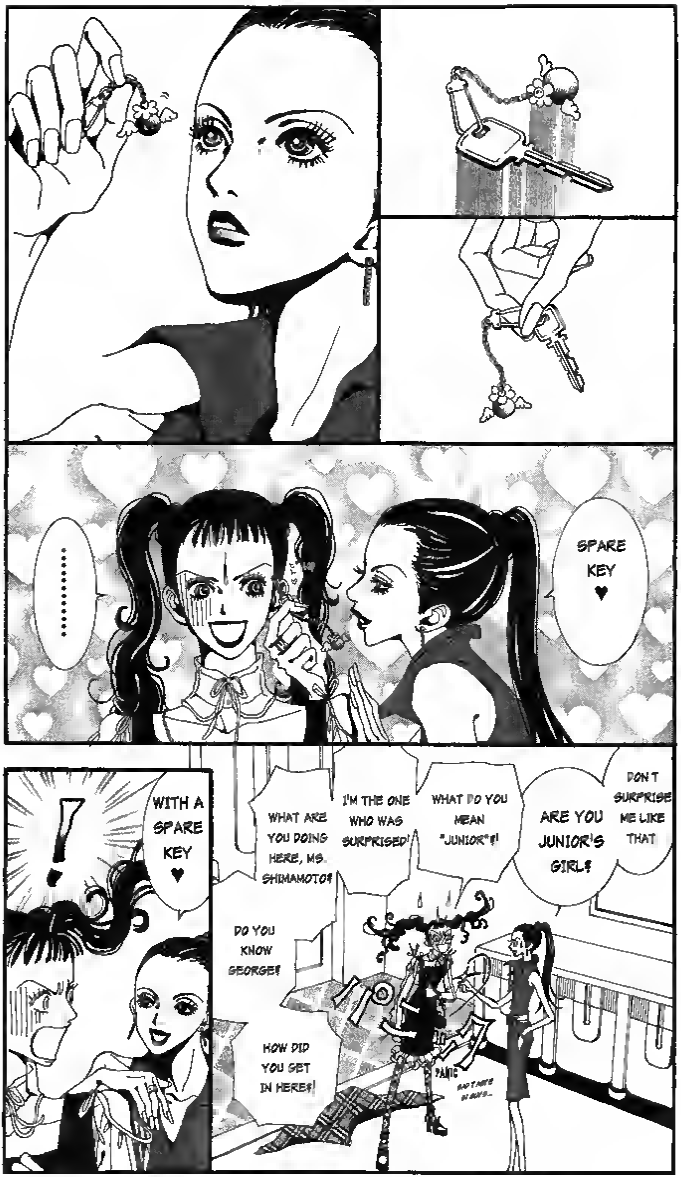
DID I LEAVE HOME WITHOUT MY UNIFORM?
WHY IN THE WORLD
WE'RE CLASS-MATES AFTER ALL!
LET ME WORRY ABOUT YOU AT LEAST
I GET THE FEELING THAT I'M TURNING INTO THE TYPE OF WOMAN THAT GEORGE HATES MOST
WAITING FOR GEORGE'S RETURN IN GEORGE'S APARTMENT THINKING ONLY ABOUT GEORGE...
SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, I'VE STARTED RUNNING IN THE COMPLETELY WRONG DIRECTION.
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET BACK ON TRACK.
AT THIS RATE, EVERYTHING WILL GO WRONG.


BUT IT'S TOO LATE
HOW CAN I LIVE ON MY OWN AT MY AGE?
I TOLD YOU, BREAK UP WITH THAT GUY ALREADY
I'VE ONLY GOT HALF OF MY LIFE LEFT?!
NO WAY!
HALFWAY?
IF YOU LIVE TO 80, THEN YOU'RE ONLY HALFWAY DONE
YOU ARE STILL 30, YUKINO
YOU CAN DO IT OVER.

SORRY, BUT I DON'T NEED ANY OLD MODELS AT MY AGENCY
WILL YOU TAKE ME AT...
IF I HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART AND WORK HARD,
KOZUE.
I DON'T WANT TO DIE LIKE THIS!
I'VE WASTED HALF OF MY LIFE! WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
I HEARD A SOUND FROM THE FOYER.
HUH?
REALLY?
HE'S BACK
AH!
OLD!


WELCOME HOME, JUNIOR!
YUKARI?
TO BECOME GEORGE'S PET KITTEN.
I HAVEN'T GIVEN EVERYTHING UP

STAGE 29


SPARE KEY ♥
.....
WITH A SPARE KEY ♥
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, MS. SHIMAMOTO?
I'M THE ONE WHO WAS SURPRISED!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "JUNIOR"?!
ARE YOU JUNIOR'S GIRL?
DON'T SURPRISE ME LIKE THAT
DO YOU KNOW GEORGE?
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?!
PANIC
BAD TASTE IN GUYS...

THE SECOND WIFE?!
WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE THE PRESIDENT!
WHAT'S WRONG, KOZUE?
MY WAY! THERE HAS TO BE SOME MISTAKE!
SHE'S SO PRETTY!
IS SHE THE SECOND WIFE?!
THIS IS YUKARI HAYASAKA.
SHE'S THE ONE PLANNING TO ENTER OUR AGENCY
WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT HER.
AH,
THE LONG BLACK HAIR WITH THE LONG LEGS
BUT WHY IS SHE HERE?
IS SHE ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S MODELS?
APPARENTLY SHE'S JUNIOR'S GIRL
HUH?
.....

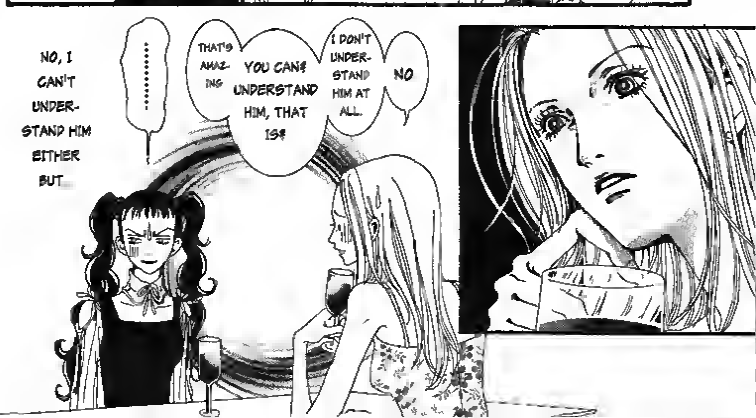
YOU'RE KIDDING!
WHY SHOULD I KID ABOUT THAT?
BUT SHE'S SO YOUNG!
THAT'S JOHJI'S MOTHER.
AREN'T YOU GOING TO GREET HER?
IS THAT SO?!
SHE'S MUCH LESS SEXY THAN HIS FORMER GIRL-FRIENDS
I WONDER WHAT'S UP
HUH?
THANK YOU!
COME TO THINK, HE SAID HIS MOTHER LIVED IN THE SAME APARTMENT COMPLEX
SHE'S STILL UNDER-AGE
SHE CAN'T.
HAVE A DRINK ♥
BUT WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE AIRLESS PEOPLE SHOWING UP ONE AFTER ANOTHER?
THIS IS CRAZY!

BY THE WAY, YUKARI IS IT?
I CAN'T REACH JOHJI ON HIS CELL PHONE
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS RIGHT NOW?
YES HE'S AT THE STUDIO
HE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF MAKING THE DRESS FOR THE SCHOOL SHOW, SO I THINK HE'LL BE BACK LATE
WHAT SHOULD I DO IN THIS SITUATION?
BUT...
THAT ATTITUDE IS WHY YOUR SON GREW UP INTO A WORTHLESS PERSON.
LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT AGE ANYMORE.
THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
.....
MIGHT BE BETTER AFTER THE SHOW IS OVER.
I'LL COME BACK LATER.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, KOZUE?
OH, NOTHING.
DID YOU NEED TO SPEAK WITH GEORGE, PRESIDENT?
ANYWAY, YUKARI
DID YOU TALK TO YOUR PARENTS ABOUT MY AGENCY?
WHEN CAN I MEET THEM?
THE TRUTH IS...
MY PAPA'S STATIONED AWAY ON BUSINESS AND IT'S HARD TO ARRANGE A TIME.
...
IS THAT SO?
THEN FOR THE TIME BEING, COULD I JUST TALK TO YOUR MOTHER AT LEAST?
YOU WANT TO START WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, DON'T YOU?

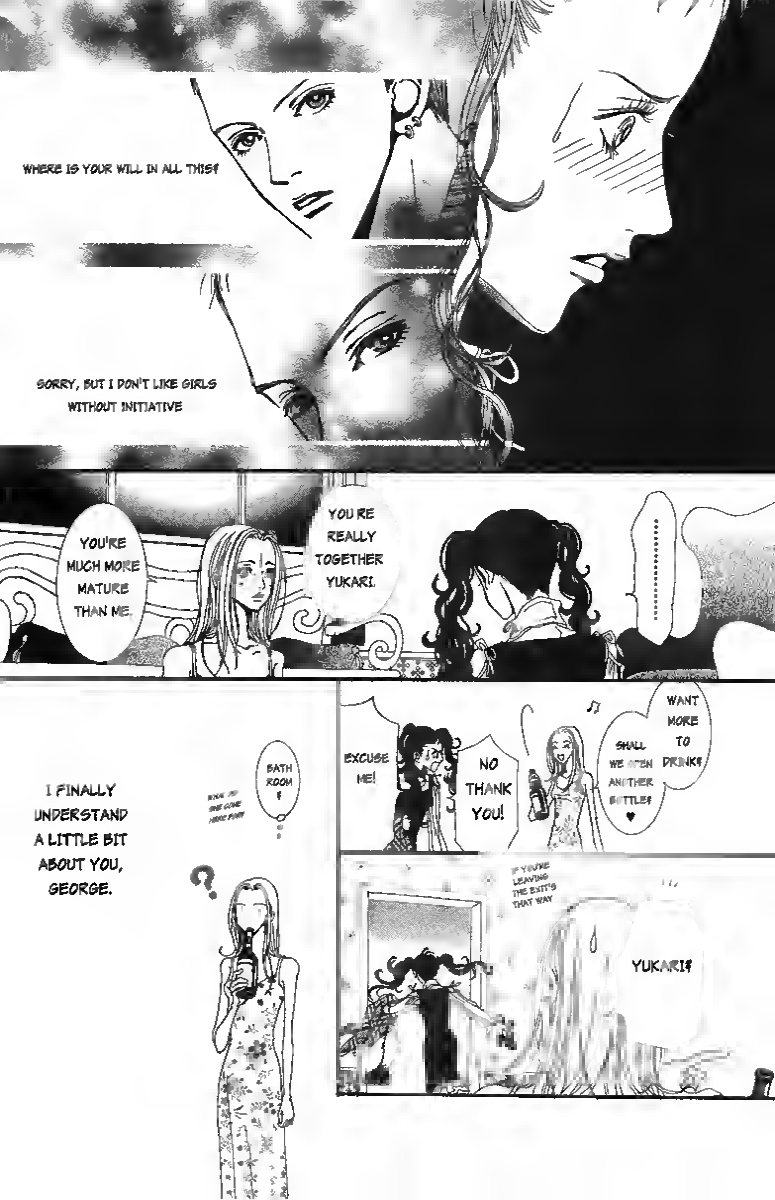
HOLD ON A MINUTE...
HUH?
SEE YOU LATER ♥
WELL, I'LL BE GOING NOW.
ANY TIME WORKS FOR ME, SO FIND OUT YOUR MOTHER'S SCHEDULE AND GIVE ME A CALL.
HAVE A DRINK ♥
YOU'RE LEAVING ME ALONE WITH HER?
NOW I HAVE A GOOD DRINKING BUDDY ♥
YAY ♥
YOU'RE A STRONG DRINKER.
AH,
ゴクゴク
ゴクゴク
ゴクゴク
カケ
ﾄﾎﾟ!
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG, WE'D GET INTO ALL SORTS OF TROUBLE TOGETHER.
OR RATHER SHE DOESN'T CUT LOOSE ANYMORE.
KOZUE DOESN'T DRINK ALL THAT MUCH.
DRINKING BUDDY?

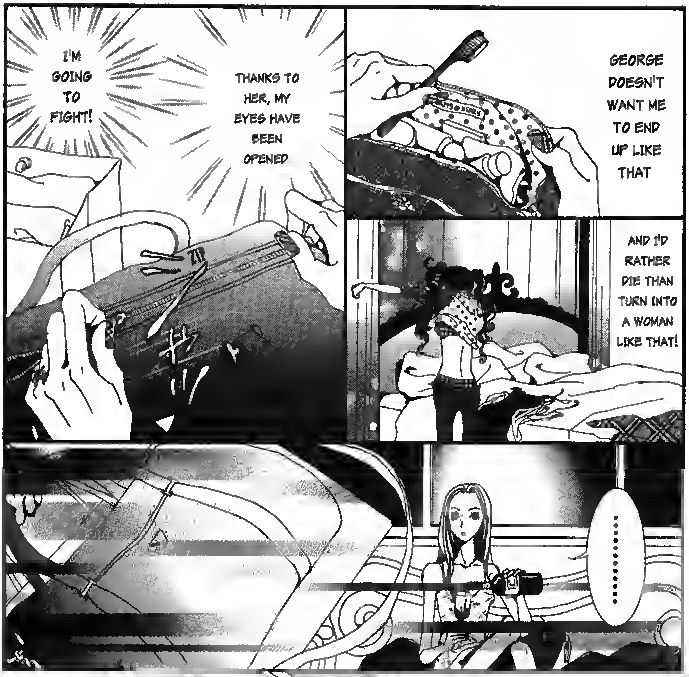
IT'S SO BORING BEING AN ADULT
.....
WHAT A STRANGE MOTHER
JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FOR GEORGE'S PARENT
BUT SHE SEEMS NICE AND SHE'S FRIENDLY, MAYBE SHE'S EASY TO TALK TO
HAVE YOU BEEN FRIENDS WITH PRESIDENT LONG?
YUP SINCE WE WERE IN OUR TEENS
WE BELONGED TO THE SAME MODELING AGENCY
SO SHE WAS A MODEL
THEN ARE YOU STILL WORKING AS A MODEL NOW?
NO, I QUIT A LONG TIME AGO
I GOT PREGNANT WHEN I WAS 21
THE FATHER HAD A WIFE AND CHILD BUT I WAS A FOOL AND STILL HAD THE BABY AND LOOK AT ME NOW.
I REMEMBER NOW, SHE REALLY IS A "SECOND WIFE"
SILLY
WELL
I RUINED MY LIFE
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO THAT MAN'S SON
IT'S USELESS BEING A WOMAN.

SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN BIRTH...
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL, YUKARI.
YOU ARE USING CONTRACEPTION, RIGHT?
NO NEED TO WORRY.
GEORGE IS THE TYPE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT.
HOW CAN SHE SAY THAT SO CASUALLY?
TO GEORGE
ORDER
OH, HE IS?
THAT'S UNUSUAL.
THAT'S NOT SO UNUSUAL!
HE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT GEORGE IS REALLY SERIOUS AND ORGANIZED
HOW CAN YOU NOT KNOW THAT AS HIS MOTHER?


NO
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM AT ALL.
YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIM, THAT IS?
THAT'S AMAZING
NO, I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIM EITHER BUT...

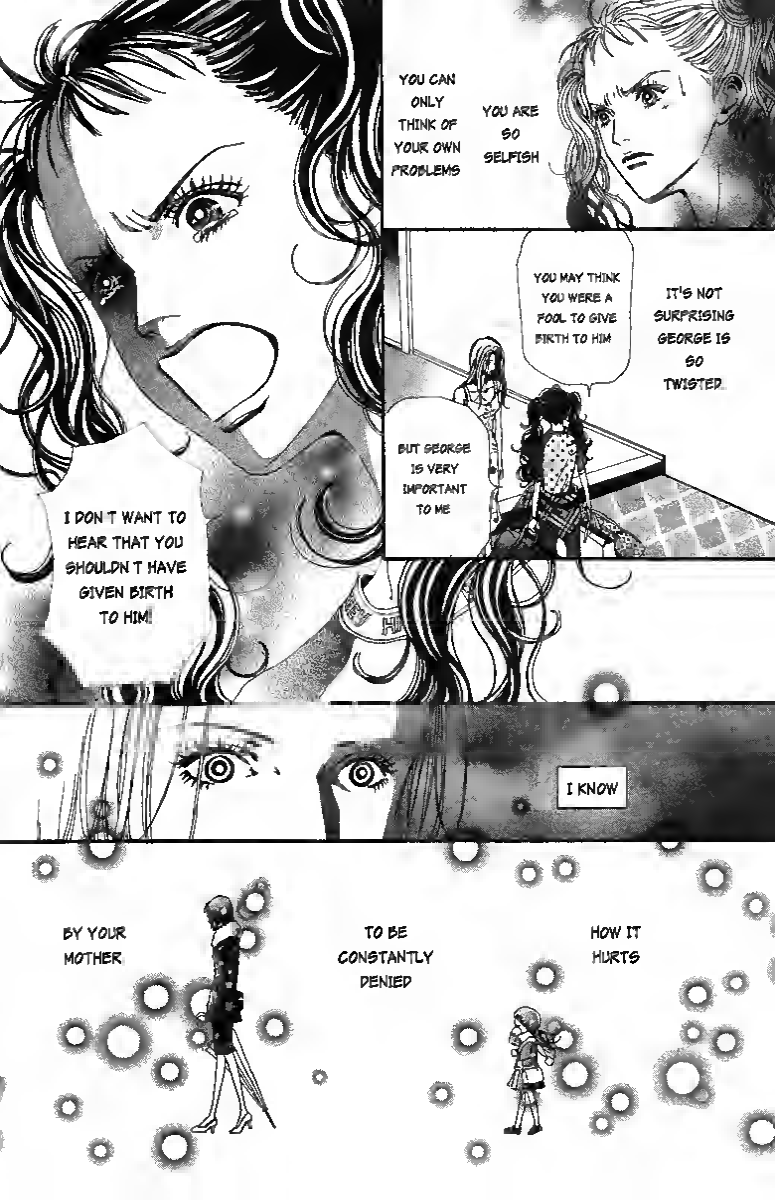
I'M SO SICK OF EVERY-THING
BUT
MY LOVER USED TO COME TO ME HALF OF THE WEEK,
BUT NOW HE HARDLY COMES ANYMORE.
AND ON TOP OF EVERYTHING, HE SAYS THINGS LIKE, "I FEEL SO TIRED WHEN I'M WITH YOU."
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S TOO MUCH?
I'M NOT SUR-PRISED HE SAYS THAT
I BET SHE SHOWERS HIM WITH COMPLAINTS EVERY TIME SHE SEES HIM
AND GEORGE, TOO HE SELFISHLY ASKED FOR HIS OWN APARTMENT AND MOVED OUT
IT'S NO SHOCK THAT HE DID
I'M SURE SHE TOLD GEORGE THAT SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO HIM, TOO.
WHO DOES HE THINK MAKES ALL THIS POSSIBLE?
I SACRIFICED MY LIFE FOR HIM
IT'S YOUR LOVER WHO MAKES IT POSSIBLE
THEN WHY DON'T YOU BREAK UP WITH HIM AND START YOUR LIFE OVER.
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE SAYS
BUT I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO THROW THIS LIFE AWAY NOW
THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY FEELING GRATEFUL FOR IT?
IS IT ALL YOUR LOVER'S FAULT THAT YOU GOT PREGNANT AND QUIT MODELING
WHERE WAS YOUR WILL IN ALL THAT?!

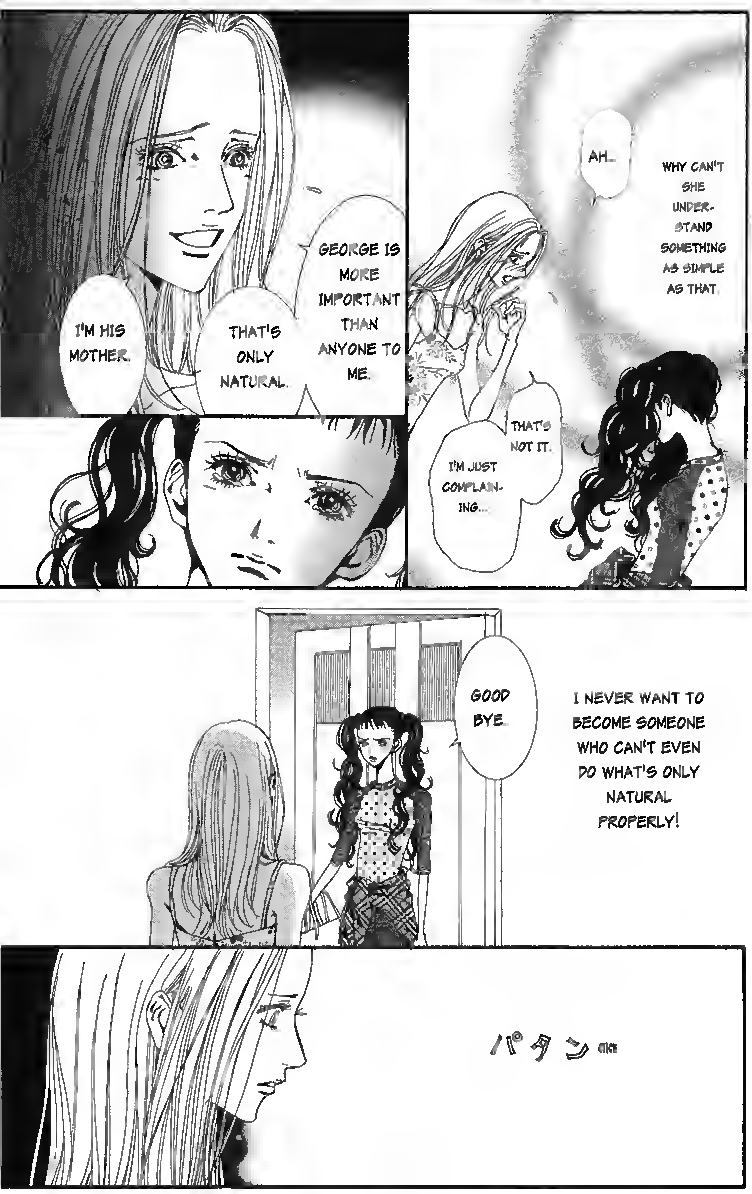

WHERE IS YOUR WILL IN ALL THIS?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T LIKE GIRLS WITHOUT INITIATIVE
YOU'RE MUCH MORE MATURE THAN ME.
YOU'RE REALLY TOGETHER YUKARI.
.....
EXCUSE ME!
NO THANK YOU!
SHALL WE OPEN ANOTHER BOTTLE? ♥
WANT MORE TO DRINK?
I FINALLY UNDERSTAND A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOU, GEORGE.
WHAT IS THE GOOD LOOKING GUY?
BATH ROOM ?
IF YOU'RE LEAVING THE EXIT'S THAT WAY
YUKARI?


I'M GOING TO FIGHT!
THANKS TO HER, MY EYES HAVE BEEN OPENED
GEORGE DOESN'T WANT ME TO END UP LIKE THAT
AND I'D RATHER DIE THAN TURN INTO A WOMAN LIKE THAT!
.....

YOU DID.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS, BUT I'M SORRY
WHY DON'T YOU UNPER STAND?
IF YOU LEAVE NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE I SCARED YOU OFF.
JOHJI WILL BE MAD AT ME.

YU-KARI !
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WHAT'S WITH THE LUGGAGE?
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU ANGRY ABOUT?
DID I SAY SOME-THING TO MAKE YOU MAD?


YOU CAN ONLY THINK OF YOUR OWN PROBLEMS
YOU ARE SO SELFISH
YOU MAY THINK YOU WERE A FOOL TO GIVE BIRTH TO HIM
IT'S NOT SURPRISING GEORGE IS SO TWISTED
BUT GEORGE IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO HIM!
I KNOW
BY YOUR MOTHER
TO BE CONSTANTLY DENIED
HOW IT HURTS

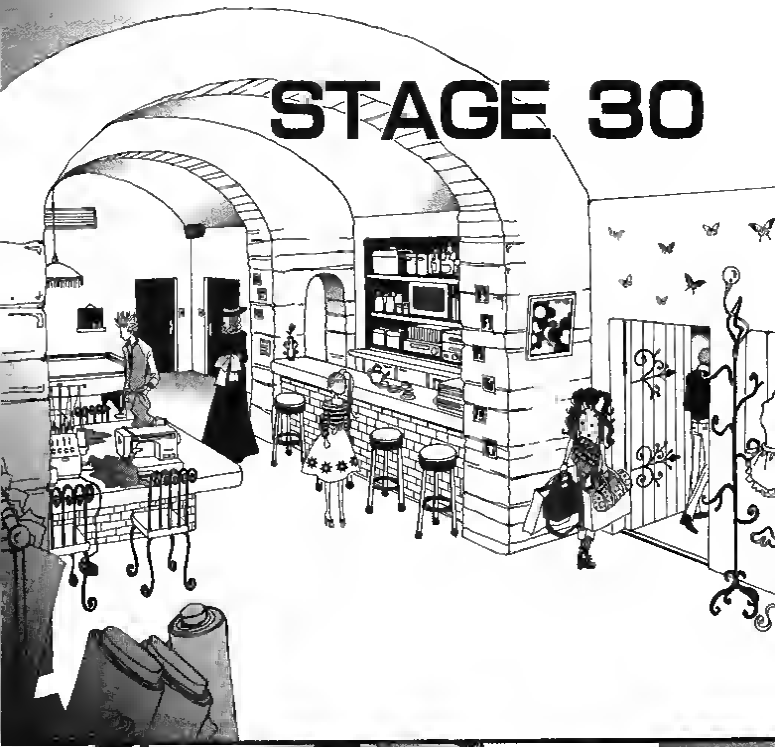

I'M HIS MOTHER.
THAT'S ONLY NATURAL.
GEORGE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYONE TO ME.
AH...
WHY CAN'T SHE UNDER-STAND SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS THAT.
THAT'S NOT IT.
I'M JUST COMPLAIN-ING...
GOOD BYE.
I NEVER WANT TO BECOME SOMEONE WHO CAN'T EVEN DO WHAT'S ONLY NATURAL PROPERLY!
パタン

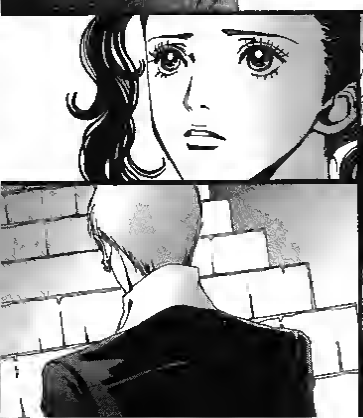
CAROLINE
.....
.....
WE JUST PUT SOME TEA ON TO TAKE A BREAK.
I'M SORRY TO PISTURB YOU WHEN YOU'RE SO BUSY
OH NO, IT'S OKAY
?
I TOLD YOU YOU WERE IN THE WAY
HEY!
LISTEN TO WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY AT LEAST.
.....
CAN I HAVE A MOMENT?
GEORGE
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU

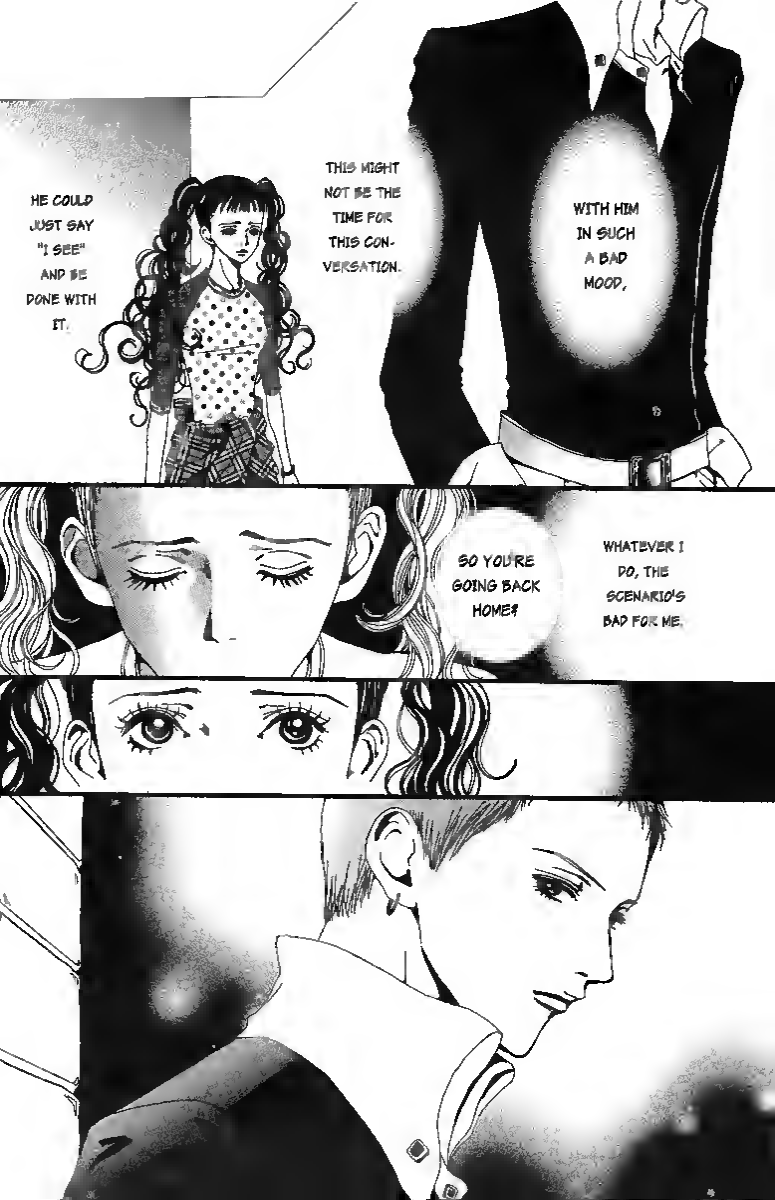
I'LL HEAR IT WHEN I GET HOME.
IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE RIGHT NOW, DOES IT?
I MIGHT NOT BE BACK THERE AGAIN.
I JUST NEED FIVE MINUTES
YOU CAN KEEP WORKING WHILE WE TALK
LET'S GO OUTSIDE
Um
Mmm
ぎっ

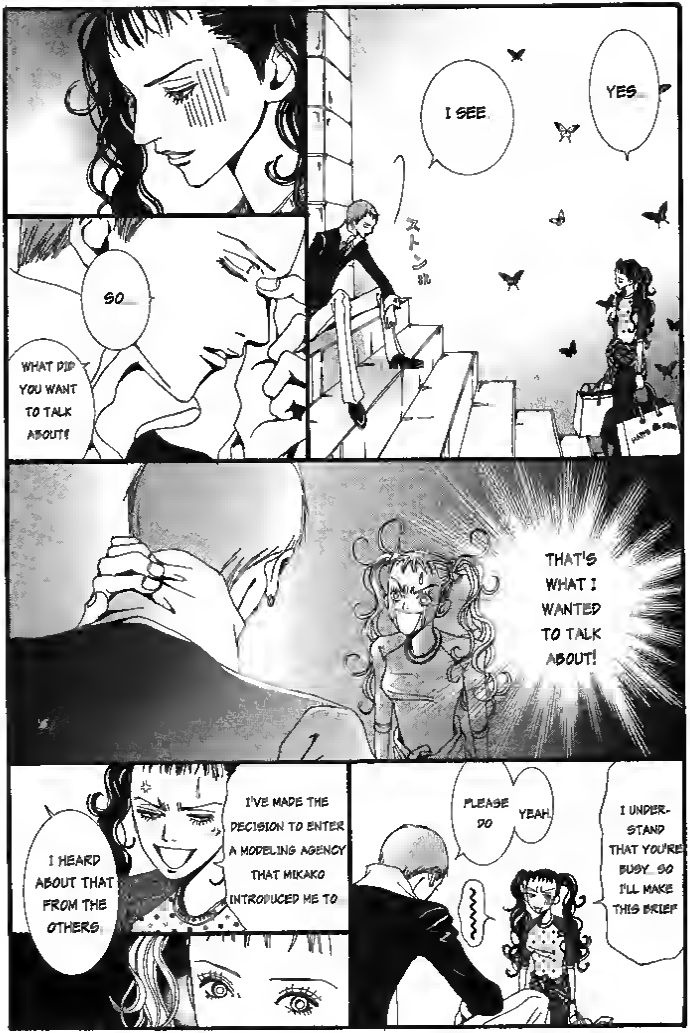
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE DRESS
I'M SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU ALL THIS WORRY
BUT I PROMISE I'LL BE IN THE SHOW
REHRY
YES!
LET'S WIN THE GRAND PRIZE TOGETHER!
I PROMISE
THANK YOU

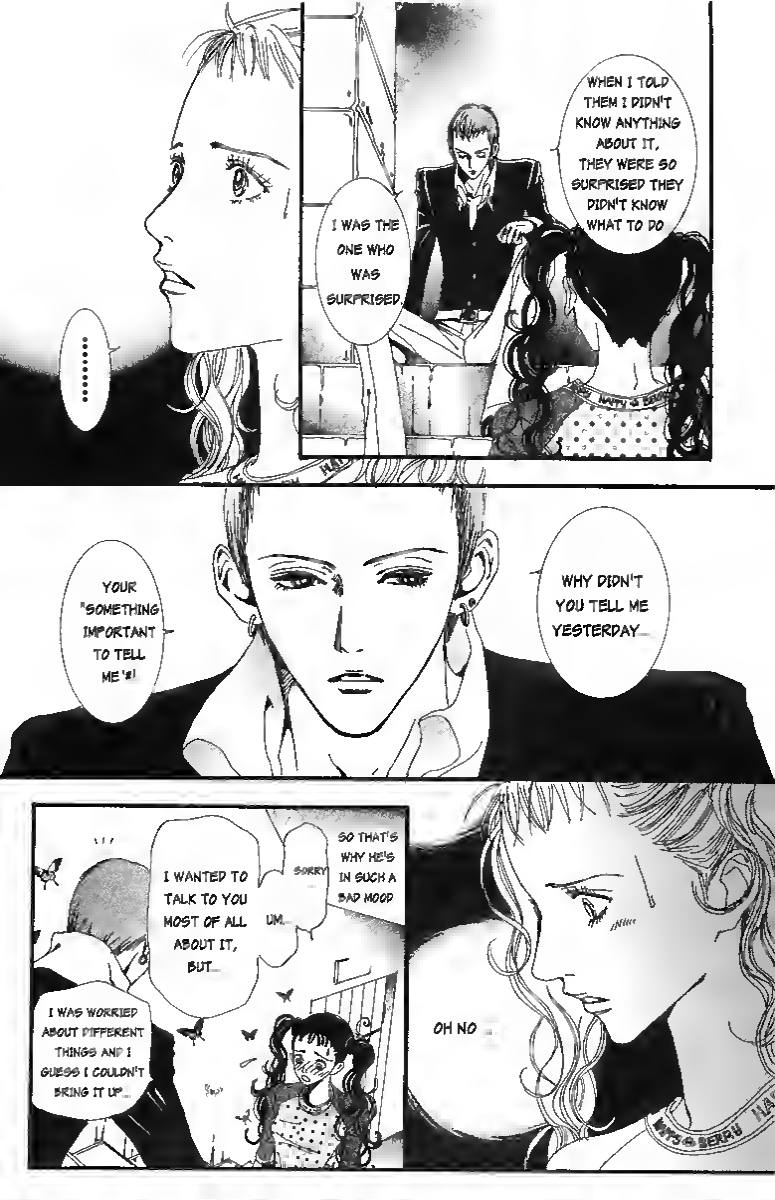
STAGE 30






HE COULD JUST SAY "I SEE" AND BE DONE WITH IT.
THIS MIGHT NOT BE THE TIME FOR THIS CONVERSATION.
WITH HIM IN SUCH A BAD MOOD,
SO YOU'RE GOING BACK HOME?
WHATEVER I DO, THE SCENARIO'S BAD FOR ME.

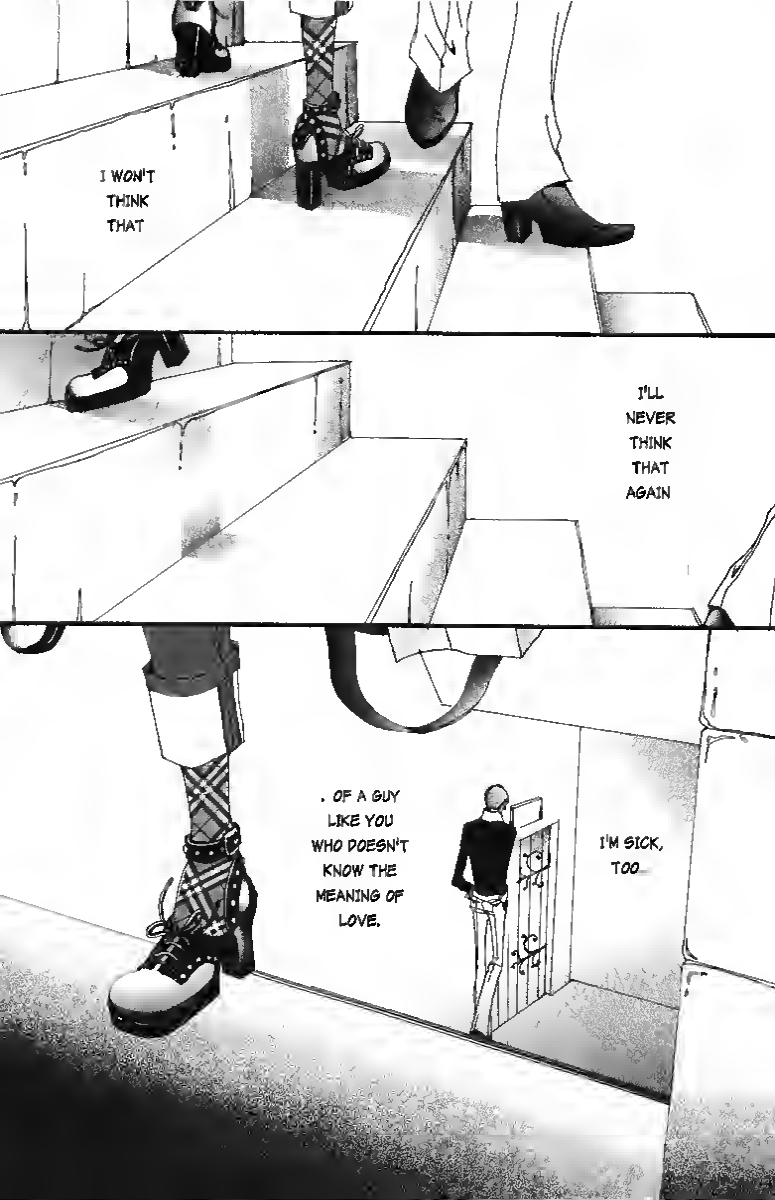

I SEE
YES
ストン
SO
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT!
I'VE MADE THE DECISION TO ENTER A MODELING AGENCY THAT MIKAKO INTRODUCED ME TO
I HEARD ABOUT THAT FROM THE OTHERS
PLEASE DO
YEAH
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE BUSY. SO I'LL MAKE THIS BRIEF


WHEN I TOLD THEM I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT, THEY WERE SO SURPRISED THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS SURPRISED.
.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YESTERDAY...
YOUR "SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL ME"?
SO THAT'S WHY HE'S IN SUCH A BAD MOOD
SORRY
UM...
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU MOST OF ALL ABOUT IT, BUT...
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT DIFFERENT THINGS AND I GUESS I COULDN'T BRING IT UP...
OH NO...

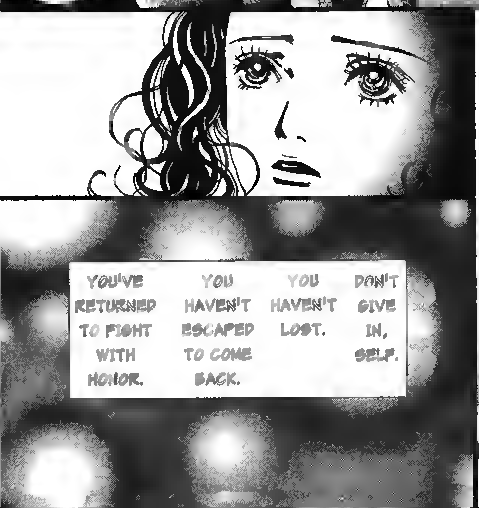
I DON'T WANT YOU BRINGING THAT KIND OF THING TO ME
IT'S YOUR LIFE. YOU MAKE THE DECISION.
YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE HERE.
HERE IT IS AGAIN
THEN WHY ARE YOU MAD?
LIAR! YOU ARE MAD!
YOU'VE BEEN IN A BAD MOOD ALL NIGHT!
I'M NOT MAD.
DON'T YELL.
IT MAKES ME SICK.

THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT!
WAIT!
WHAT IS MAKING YOU SICK?!
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, THEN COME OUT AND SAY IT!
IF YOU'VE DECIDED TO GO HOME
WELL..
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
MAKING HIM SICK...
IS THAT ALL YOU HAD TO SAY?
ABOUT MY FAMILY AND STUFF!
DON'T YELL.
WHAT DID YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT?
JUST LET ME ASK.
DIFFERENT THINGS!

I THOUGHT YESTERDAY
THAT IF YOU FELT SLEEPING WITH ME
WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN BECOMING A MODEL
THEN YOU WERE A STUPID GIRL

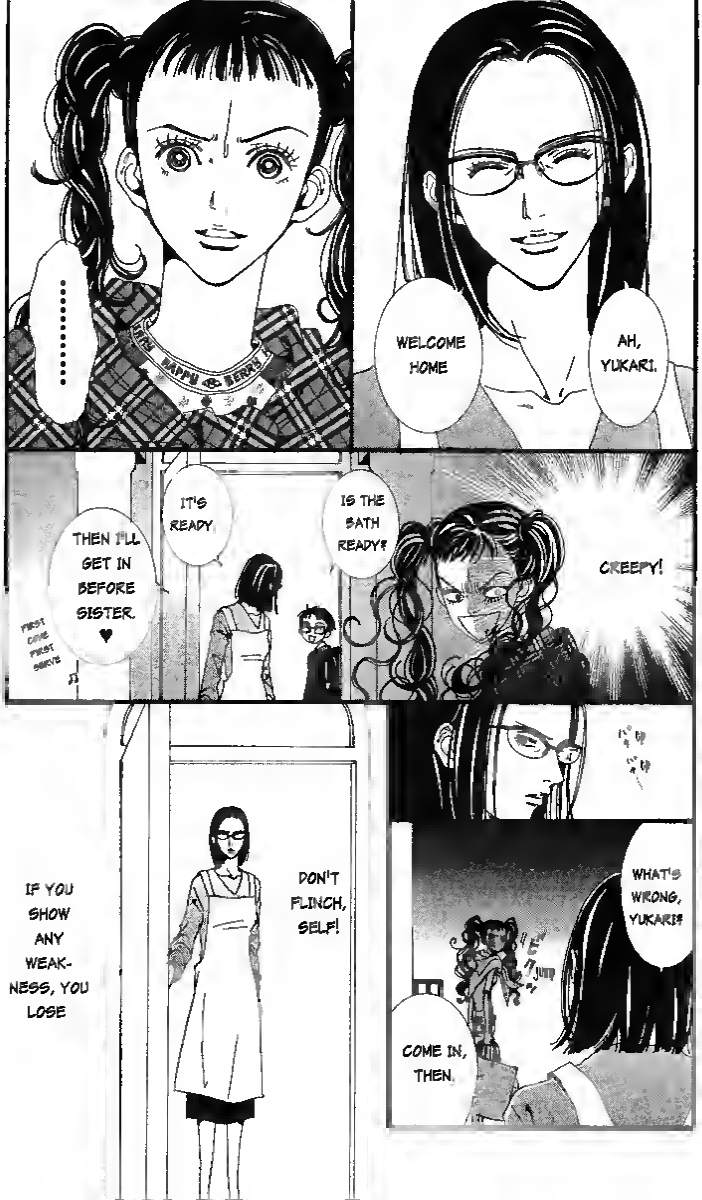

I WON'T THINK THAT
I'LL NEVER THINK THAT AGAIN
. OF A GUY LIKE YOU WHO DOESN'T KNOW THE MEANING OF LOVE.
I'M SICK, TOO...

I JUST WANTED TO BE BY YOUR SIDE.



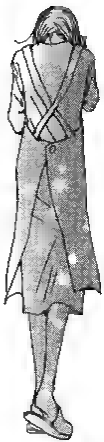
SHOULD I RING THE BELL, OR SHOULD I JUST GO IN?
YO, SIS!
I'M あはる
SUGURU ... AH...
WHAT'S WITH YOUR HAIR?
DID YOUR FRIEND GET BETTER THEN?
HUH? ... YES ...
THAT'S GOOD.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON BUT APPARENTLY I'VE BEEN STAYING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE!
WHY ARE YOU COMING HOME SO LATE!
I WAS AT A CRAM SCHOOL.
WOW... THAT'S STUPID.
IT'S PAST 10 ALREADY ...
I STAYED BEHIND TO STUDY WITH MY FRIENDS.
IT'S A LIE, OF COURSE.
BUT THAT'S MY STORY SO DON'T GIVE ME AWAY.

I'M HOME.
HE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
IS HE SHAMELESS OR JUST CLEVER?
ピンポーン
ding
dong
WELCOME BACK, SUGURU
MOTHER, SISTER HAS COME HOME!


.....
AH, YUKARI.
WELCOME HOME
CREEPY!
IS THE BATH READY?
IT'S READY.
THEN I'LL GET IN BEFORE SISTER. ♥
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE
WHAT'S WRONG, YUKARI?
COME IN, THEN.
DON'T FLINCH, SELF!
IF YOU SHOW ANY WEAK-NESS, YOU LOSE

I'LL COME IN IF YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
BUT STILL, I ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK.
DO YOU LOVE ME, MOTHER?

"DO YOU LOVE ME, MOTHER?"



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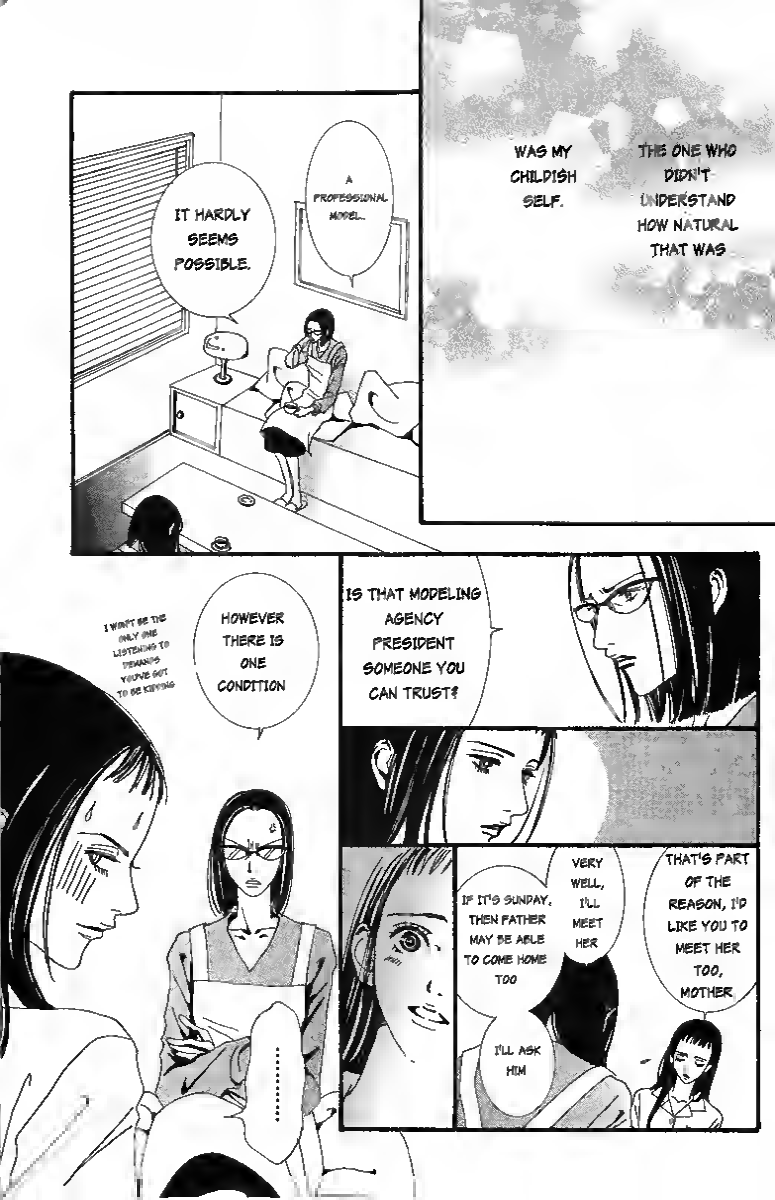
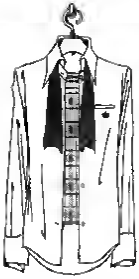

WAS MY CHILDISH SELF.
THIS ONE WHO DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW NATURAL THAT WAS
A PROFESSIONAL MODEL.
IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE.
IS THAT MODELING AGENCY PRESIDENT SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST?
HOWEVER THERE IS ONE CONDITION
I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE LISTENING TO DEMANDS YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING
THAT'S PART OF THE REASON, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET HER TOO, MOTHER.
VERY WELL, I'LL MEET HER
IF IT'S SUNDAY, THEN FATHER MAY BE ABLE TO COME HOME TOO
I'LL ASK HIM
.....



"YOU MUST GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL."

...WAS SO SIMPLE I COULD HAVE FAINTED

THE ONE CONDITION MY MOTHER GAVE ME.

THEN I'D EVEN TAKE THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS.

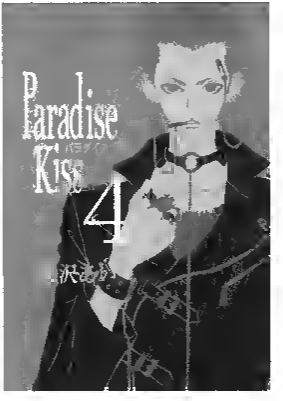
HIGH SCHOOL MATH III

IF SHE WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT MY BECOMING A MODEL.

EVEN IF I NEVER GET TO SEE GEORGE AGAIN.

TO BE CONTINUED

PARADISE KISS 4
COMING IN 2003



The school fashion show is finally here, and it's a last-minute fight to the finish to get the awesome ensemble ready on time. The drama escalates when a stressed-out Yukari literally passes out from exhaustion in George's car. Will she recover in time to model for the show?! Meanwhile, a mysterious female friend from George's past shows up to support him on the big day. Are they just friends...or something more?! Yukari's not sure *who* she can trust anymore. All she's 100% sure about is that she wants the Paradise Kiss posse to take first place at the fashion show, no matter what it takes. Will they reign victorious or be forced to taste the agony of defeat? Find out in this far-out fashion extravaganza, coming in 2003!

C'mon, give it a try...

PARADISE KISS BONUS

QUIZ: HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT FASHION?

by Jodi Bryson, guest editor and Paradise Kiss junkie

YUKARI IS CERTAINLY GETTING DEEPER INTO THE USER-GLAMOROUS WORLD OF HIGH FASHION! IF YOU WERE IN HER DESIGNER SHOES, WOULD YOU BE MORE INTO THE MODELING OR THE HOT CLOTHES? TAKE THIS QUIZ TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT THE FASHION INDUSTRY!

1 WHAT DOES THE TERM "MODEL CALL TIME" REFER TO?

A A PRE-SHOW CONFERENCE CALL THAT TAKES PLACE BETWEEN A MODEL, HER AGENT AND A DESIGNER.

B THE EXACT HOUR AND MINUTE WHEN A MODEL MUST ARRIVE FOR A PHOTO SHOOT.

C THE AMOUNT OF TIME A MODEL IS ALLOWED TO WALK A RUNWAY

2 WHY IS THE RUNWAY REFERRED TO AS A "CATWALK"?

A BECAUSE THE MODELS "STRUT" LIKE SLINKY CATS

B BECAUSE IT'S NARROW, AND CATS HAVE A REMARKABLE ABILITY TO BALANCE THEMSELVES IN VERY NARROW PLACES

C BECAUSE FASHIONISTAS ARE NOTORIOUSLY "CATTY," AND THE RUNWAY IS WHERE THEY SHOW THE MOST ATTITUDE.

3 MANOLO BLAHNIK AND JIMMY CHOO ARE FAMOUS FOR:

A. CO-INVENTING THE STAIRMASTER.

B DESIGNING FABULOUS SHOES FAVORED BY CARRIE ON SEX AND THE CITY.

C BEING MAKEUP DESIGNERS TO THE STARS

4 WHAT IS EMBOSSING?

A A NEGATIVE TERM GIVEN TO A MODEL, PHOTOGRAPHER OR STYLIST WHO ANNOYINGLY BEHAVES AS IF THEY ARE THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE AT A SHOOT OR SHOW.

B A TERM USED TO DESCRIBE A PARTICULAR TREATMENT TO FABRIC WHICH MAKES IT APPEAR THREE-DIMENSIONAL.

C A TITLE FOR THE MODEL SUPERVISOR'S (OR "BOSS'S") DUTIES AT A RUNWAY SHOW, HE KEEPS TRACK OF WHO WEARS WHICH DESIGNERS

5 WHAT IS A CONTACT SHEET?

A A BLANK-WHITE BACKGROUND USED IN PHOTOGRAPHY SO THAT DURING DEVELOPMENT, A GRAPHIC DESIGNER CAN IMPOSE FALSE SCENERY BEHIND THE MODEL.

B A PAGE CONTAINING SMALL PICTURES FROM A ROLL OF FILM THAT AN EDITOR OR DESIGNER CAN VIEW BY LOOKING THROUGH A "LOOP," A TYPE OF MAGNIFYING GLASS.

C A FILE CONTAINING INFORMATION FOR A DESIGNER'S OR EDITOR'S MOST FREQUENTLY USED MODELS

6. THE DEFINITION OF A "SET TEACHER" IS:

A. A MEMBER OF THE PHOTO CREW RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTRUCTING MODELS ON HOW TO USE PROPS.

B. A CERTIFIED TEACHER REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE PRESENT WHEN A MODEL IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

C. A TITLE FOR THE PERSON WHO SUPERVISES THE SET-PRODUCTION CREW ON BACKDROPS, PROPS, AND LOCATION DECORATING.

7. VERA WANG IS BEST KNOWN FOR DESIGNING:

A. GLITZY BROADWAY SHOWS

B. ULTRA-GLAM WEDDING DRESSES

C. WARDROBE FOR TV SHOWS LIKE FRIENDS AND BUFFY.

HOW ADD UP YOUR A'S, B'S AND C'S TO SCORE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE FASHION INDUSTRY!

F.Y.I.: THE B ANSWERS WERE ALWAYS THE CORRECT RESPONSES, THE C ANSWERS WERE THE "CREATIVE" DEFINITIONS, AND THE A ANSWERS WERE, WELL, JUST PLAIN WRONG!

MOSTLY A'S

YOU ARE FAR FROM A FASHIONISTA, AND YOU'RE NOT DOWN WITH INDUSTRY TERMS, EITHER. COULD IT BE THAT YOU LOVE CLOTHES BUT DON'T GIVE A HOOEY ABOUT ALL THAT TECHNICAL FASHION MUMBO-JUMBO? IN YOUR MIND, FASHION IS SOMETHING TO WEAR, NOT WORK FOR. YOU LOVE CLOTHES, BUT YOU'RE NOT HUNG UP ON BEING THE PERSON WHO KNOWS THE INS AND OUTS OF ALL THINGS FASHION... AND THAT'S JUST FINE BY YOU. STAY STYLIN'!

MOSTLY B'S

YOU KNOW YOUR FASHION STUFF! YOU COULD DEFINITELY HAVE A FUTURE IN THE INDUSTRY... IF NOT AS A MODEL, THEN MAYBE A STYLIST, DESIGNER OR PHOTOGRAPHER! KUDOS FOR RECOGNIZING SOME SERIOUSLY TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY. PLUS, YOUR KNOWLEDGE HAS RANGE... YOU KNEW ABOUT PHOTO STUFF, MODEL STUFF, AND CLOTHES STUFF. ROCK ON! STAY ON THIS PATH, AND YOU MIGHT JUST BE THE NEXT HOT FASHION CELEB! STAY IN THE KNOW!

MOSTLY C'S

WHILE YOU DON'T HAVE TONS OF PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE FASHION INDUSTRY, YOU ARE A HIGHLY CREATIVE INDIVIDUAL. ALL THAT COULD BE STANDING BETWEEN YOU AND A CAREER IN FASHION IS A LITTLE EDUCATION. IT TAKES A LOT OF CREATIVITY TO BE IN THE BIZ, AND YOUR SCORE PROVES THAT YOU HAVE LOADS OF THAT TO SPARE. STAY GROOVY!

Please send your Paradise Kiss comments or fan art to: Julie Taylor, Senior Editor, TOKYOPOP, 5900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2000, Los Angeles, CA 90036; or e-mail Julie at juliet@tokyopop.com. Thanks!

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Every generation breaks the old fashions, but follows closely the new.
- Henry David Thoreau

It turns out that Yukari is a natural when it comes to modeling in no time, her career takes off, and soon she's fielding offers from bigtime modeling agencies. But she soon discovers she needs her parents' consent before anyone can present her. Yeah, like that's ever going to happen! When Yukari asks the love of her life, George, for some professional guidance, he gives her grief—not answers. Does the guy even know the meaning of love? Yukari is beginning to wonder if he's worth her time—or her devotion.

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